

CARA

Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, 14th August 2020

Venue: via Zoom conferencing.

In attendance: Malcolm Baldwin (Chair), Richard Brown, George Feiger, Mike Richardson, Sally Rothwell, Ron Temperton, Rosie Tunstall.

Apologies for absence: Stephen Taylor.

Minutes of meeting held on 11th June 2020: Approved.

Matters arising: There were none.

Treasury and Membership Report: The Treasurer reported that all financial accounting matters were regularised and up to date with a current CARA bank balance of £11,830.

Subsequent to the resignation of previous directors, following their respective resignations from the Committee, Malcolm Baldwin and Ron Temperton had been appointed as cheque and bank mandate signatories in addition to Mike Richardson, the Treasurer who is an existing signatory.

Following a question from Rosie Tunstall, the Treasurer confirmed that the current membership of the Association stood at 105 members and an additional 25 associate members. It was agreed that the membership profile would be reported at each future committee meeting, at the same time 'differentiating' between the number of members and associate members.

Discussion of 2020 Social Events: Rosie Tunstall (RT) highlighted that it unfortunately was not appropriate at the present time, against the background of the Covid-19 situation, to organise any social events for the CARA membership.....not least as a maximum of only six attendees would be allowed, as detailed in current Government recommendations/regulations.

At the present moment therefore, it was appreciated by the meeting that the current situation, if it continues until potentially the end of the year, that both the Members Christmas Luncheon and indeed the "Carols in The Circus" event may well be in question.

However, RT emphasised that whilst keeping the situation and especially Government regulations under constant review, it would be possible for herself and her team to be able to react quickly and effectively should the situation change. The meeting decided that the situation would be kept under ongoing review, as they were also conscious that a potential meeting for members in the Autumn, if at all possible, had been alluded to in the minutes of the CARA AGM held in July.

CCAG (City Center Action Group) and UTRA (Upper Town Residents Association) Update: Ron Temperton (RT), the CARA representative at the CCAG, reported that there were no changes to report further to his report presented at the last CARA committee meeting. RT indicated that there was a general concern, however, in respect of overall current Council finances.

In respect of UTRA [against the background of the Covid - 19 situation], the last scheduled meeting had been understandably cancelled.

Traffic Management:

(i) Residents Parking: Presenting his report, Richard Brown (RB) updated the Committee on the present resident's parking profile. RB indicated that currently there were circa 400 parking space available in total within the CARA catchment area of which 50 currently were "residents-only". Representations have and continue to be made to Council for the addition of another 50 "residents-only" parking spaces. [Thereby, providing a potentially wider spread of "residents-only parking more generally across the CARA catchment area].

(ii) Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN): RB indicated that a revised "LTN Draft Discussion Paper", circulated to Committee, had been forward to CARA's four councillors and to Joanna Wright, councillor jointly responsible for transport matters. [The intention being to attempt to solicit guidance/reaction to some of the key points within the document prior to launching any consultation with members/residents].

RB emphasised that LTNs were only one part of the Council's "Liveable Neighbourhoods Policy" which is currently under consideration by the Council and appears to be currently at its 'scrutiny' stage with potential 'sign-off' by Council Cabinet in November. This was likely to mean that the implementation of any LTNs, if accepted by Council, would likely fall into 2021.*

RT indicated that it might be useful to undertake an outline LTN briefing for residents sooner rather than later. Chair (MB) and RB both supported caution with MB suggesting that the next weeks, leading up to November, should be used to perhaps more 'softly-softly' approach potential 'influencers' to gain their opinion and input.

George Feiger reminded the meeting of some of the key elements of the Waltham Forest LTN presentation [held in January] where it was emphasised that the introduction of LTNs are unlikely to be fully supported by local communities in all of their aspects but in that particular case the real benefits were only appreciated up to a year following implementation.

* [Note: MB currently understands that the 'scrutiny' process for the "Liveable Neighbourhoods Policy" has now been fully completed and consequently final 'sign-off' could, in theory, be either at Council's November Cabinet or indeed potentially its October Cabinet.....Agendas not yet published on either in order to yet confirm.]

Committee Roles: The schedule of suggested Committee roles as included in the Agenda of the meeting were agreed and confirmed as follows:-

Malcolm Baldwin – Chair	Constitution, FoBRA, LTN, Business Community Liason.
Richard Brown - Vice Chair	Transport, LTN, Creating/distribution of Bulletins and Newsletters.
Mike Richardson -Treasurer	Treasury/Accounts/Company House filings/Management of membership.
Rosie Tunstall - Social Secretary	Arranging and co-ordination (with chosen assistance) of social events.
Ron Temperton	CCAG, Liason with appropriate Council events/activities.

George Feiger	CAZ/ Transport/Air quality.
Sally Rothwell	Licensing issues, Quality of the Public Realm.
Stephen Taylor	Planning (focus on CARA catchment area and wider BANES issues where appropriate e.g. Airbnb policy).

Proposed "Environmental Services Sub-Committee": It was unanimously agreed that Sabrina Earnshaw (a CARA Associate Member) would lead a new "Environmental Services Sub-Committee" with Sally Rothwell joining the sub-committee as a representative of CARA's main committee.

Future Committee Dates: The Committee agreed the following dates for the next four committee meetings together with a provisional date for the next AGM. These being:-

Committee Meetings:-

Friday, 9th October 2020
Friday, 11th December 2020
Friday, 12th February 2021
Friday, 9th April 2021

Annual General Meeting 2021:-

Thursday, 13th May 2021

Any other Business: MB, in respect of FoBRA reported that there had been no recent meetings held of the Committee as a result of the Covid-19 situation but that a 'virtual' meeting was scheduled for early September.

There being no other business, the meeting was duly closed.