

**Minutes of the Camden Residents Association AGM 2010**  
Claremont Methodist Church Hall 09/11/10

**Apologies:** Councillor David Dixon, Nancy Coppock, Chris Smith

**Minutes of 2009 AGM:** Nigel Sherwen read out the minutes which were accepted as a fair and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

**Chairman's Report:** Nigel Sherwen detailed the year's activities. The Council announced the CPZ in February and the CRA put out a short newsletter to remind residents of the imminent changes.

After a few teething problems the scheme settled down and freed up much needed parking for residents. The 6&7 bus routes had been cut and residents using the buses have been affected. After protests, the bus company reinstated the link route between Larkhall and Fairfield, though the 20 minute service has now been extended to 40 minutes. The Lansdown pedestrian crossing was put into place during the year and has received widespread approval. Caring for Camden has made a real difference to the appearance of Camden and there will be a big clean up on the 21st Nov. Nigel thanked the committee for their continuing efforts to improve Camden. He also thanked Patrick Anketell-Jones who is retiring, for his long standing contribution to the CRA as founder member, first Chairman and then as Secretary.

**Secretary's report:** Patrick Anketell-Jones said the committee had met three times during the past year; there had been 14 issues discussed by the committee, the most important being the CPZ and Camden Crescent land.

**Treasurer's report:** Nancy Coppock was unavailable so Nigel Sherwen deputised. The balance of CRA account in Jan 2010 was £527.00 and at the date of the AGM date it was £468.68. Expenses outside of the usual administration included visi-vests for residents engaged in Caring for Camden Sundays. The accounts were accepted by the meeting. Proposer Janet Anderson seconded by Tony Anderson.

**Committee Election:** With the exception of Patrick Anketell-Jones who stood down the meeting elected the committee en bloc.

Janet Anderson was nominated and elected as a new member of the committee.

Proposer Brian Sheriff seconded by Susan Doshi.

**CPZ Questions and discussion:**

1. A resident of Camden Crescent said that she had found there were insufficient parking spaces in the Crescent for the number of residents of the houses and flats there. Nigel Sherwen and others said that they had not seen it to be a particular problem. There were usually a number of places in St Stephens Rd, although it was agreed that this area was rather dark at night and there had been some security problems.

Councillor Clarke pointed out that there are unlikely to be any substantial changes to the parking scheme as it had generally been so well received.

2. Someone raised the question of the operation of the CPZ on Sundays, which they said had been introduced without consultation, and which they found inconvenient.

Nigel Sherwen felt there was general support for the 7 day operation of the scheme but

agreed that the committee would draw up a questionnaire to put to residents before the Council's review of the scheme which was due to take place 12 months after its introduction.

### **Road improvements Questions and discussion**

1. A resident of Belgrave Crescent raised the question of the bollards in the Crescent. Nigel agreed that the CRA would put pressure on the Council to remove them and put in some other traffic calming measure such as speed humps.
2. While most people agreed that the new crossing on Lansdown Hill had been a vast improvement, Deepali Gaskell questioned why it was not positioned higher up, just beyond the junction with Morford Street. It was pointed out that the Council had looked into various possibilities, and Councillor Clarke explained that the land opposite the Farmhouse pub, where cars are often parked, was privately owned

### **Camden Crescent Lawn**

Stephen George spoke about the subject of the land below Camden Crescent. He explained that a research group had been set up to look into the possibilities for improving the appearance and use of the land. It was currently investigating the legal issues involved. Although the land is owned by the Council, there are historical covenants regarding its planting and use. It is therefore important to have legal advice about what can be done.

The group has been in touch with the Council, who are undertaking some winter clearance, particularly to improve the sight lines and safety along the border with Upper Hedgemoor Road.

With regard to the removal of brambles and other major weeds, Stephen mentioned the possible use of a spray weed killer, but also the use of pigs. It is possible that the land could be fenced and the pigs supplied free by a local farmer. Residents that Stephen had spoken to had welcomed the idea.

The Council had also been approached with regard to the repair of the fencing to Upper Hedgemoor Road.

Consultation was continuing on the possibilities for both the appearance and use of the land, and it was pointed out that a questionnaire had been sent out to local residents. Concerns were also raised about subsidence and damage to the arches below Camden Crescent. Councillor Clarke said that he had been in touch with the Council about the possible need for further strengthening work.

### **AOB**

Mayoral election

Brian Sheriff spoke to remind people that the Council were meeting the following week to vote on whether there should be an elected mayor, and this was to be decided without consultation. The result of this vote could mean profound changes to the way Bath is run.

The meeting ended at 8.45PM