

OPEN SPACE NEWSLETTER

October 2019 ISSUE 37

The Newsletter of the Aldborough Hatch Defence Association

The Aldborough Hatch Defence Association (AHDA) is the local residents' organisation that helps to protect the area you live in. It is open to anyone who cares about Aldborough Hatch and you are very welcome to come along and find out more at the AGM on Tuesday 29th October at 8pm at St. Peter's Church Hall



Wes Streeting, MP, pledges to protect our Green Belt land. *Photo by Raymond Small.*



Harvesting in the Dick Turpin Orchard. *Photo by Ron Jeffries*

It been a busy year for the AHDA!

In January we found out that the haul road for gravel extraction was still going to pass through Fairlop Waters Country Park, despite promises from Redbridge Council Leader Jas Athwal that this would not happen. Despite our protests and deputations to Council and getting most of it moved out, a small section will still pass very close to the footpath to the south of the Park.

Members of the AHDA have been attending meetings of the Gravel Extraction Liaison Committee along with Council representatives and Brett Tarmac Ltd. Gravel extraction will not start in Area E, between St. Peter's Church and the Equestrian Centre until late Spring/Summer next year. The strange fencing and pots you can see in the field are to trap any reptiles and amphibians, such as great-crested newts, and move them to a safe location.

In late March we had the annual 'Spring Clean the Hatch' morning and thanks to those who turned up, we collected 52 big bags of litter and made a real difference to the area we live in. Look out for the posters next Spring and please come along, the more people we have the larger the area we can cover. Fly-tipping is also becoming a problem around the Hatch and you can report it on Redbridge Council's website or phone up the Council on 02085545000.

April saw the formation of the Protect Fairlop Plain, (PFP), group, the amalgamation of a number of local residents' associations. It was formed when Redbridge Council decided to put in a bid to locate three London Markets on Green Belt land between Hainault Road and Billet Road. This would have had a disastrous effect on traffic congestion, destruction of wildlife and air quality. Thanks to the campaign spearheaded by Chris Gannaway this was averted and the markets will now be located on disused (brown site) land in Barking and Dagenham.

August was harvest time in the Dick Turpin Orchard with a bumper crop. Volunteers have been looking after the veteran trees there for 3 years now and planting new ones. We do need more volunteers to keep this project going so let me know if you're interested in some healthy, outdoor exercise and you do get free apples! Many thanks to our local councillors who come along and help, see Councillor Debbie Kaur-Thiara in the photo above!

I have been attending the Police Ward Committee to find out what is happening in our area and there does seem to be an increase in the number of burglaries and drug-dealing. The Police are grateful for any information and can be reached on 101 for non-emergencies, 999 for emergencies or by phoning our Safer Neighbourhood Team on 020 8721 2566 or emailing sntji-aldborough@met.police.uk.

To find out more about what is going on in Aldborough Hatch please do come along to the **Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 29th October at 8pm in St Peter's Church Hall, Aldborough Road North**. For more information you can also visit our Facebook Page by searching for Aldborough Hatch Defence Association or Website at www.ahda.org.uk or follow us on TWITTER (@the_AHDA).

We really really need your help and you will be made very welcome.

Jenny Chalmers, Chair aldboroughhatchdefenceassoc@gmail.com

**Abridged Minutes of the Aldborough Hatch Defence Association Annual General Meeting
Friday 26th October 2018, 8pm, St Peter's Church Hall**

Present: Jenny Chalmers, Chair; Councillor John Howard, residents and members of the Association.

1. **Welcome and Introduction** from the Chair with thanks to Ron Jeffries for all his efforts on our behalf.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Wes Streeting, MP; Councillors Debbie Kaur-Thiara, Jyotsna Islam; John Coombs; Liz Long
3. **Minutes of the last AGM** on 27-10-17 agreed, Proposed by Ashley Briscoe, seconded by Ken Morgan
4. **Matters Arising:** none raised
5. **Treasurer's Report:** The audited accounts for the year to September 2019 showed a balance of £529.38 which included a £397 grant to buy equipment for the Dick Turpin Orchard. Most of our expenditure goes towards the printing of this newsletter. These were agreed.
6. **Election of Officers:** The following were nominated and agreed: Chair: Jenny Chalmers; Vice-Chair Chris Gannaway; Secretary: Kristy Leach; Treasurer: Ken Morgan; Membership Secretary; Ron Jeffries: Public Relations Officer: Ron Jeffries; Green Belt Champion: Chris Gannaway; Dick Turpin Orchard Lead: Jenny Chalmers; Planning Application Monitor: Vanessa Cole.
7. **Election of Auditor:** Shirley Rudge was nominated and agreed
8. **Chair's Report:** Issues included the impending gravel extraction; the formation of the Gravel Extraction Liaison Committee; Fly-tipping; Litter; Speeding in Aldborough Road North and Painters Road; Newbury Park lifts almost finished; Dick Turpin Orchard.
9. **Environmental Issues:** Chris Gannaway reported on the development of the Aldborough Hatch Nature Reserve; drones; tenant farmers' wildlife seminar; travellers' site break-ins; hedgerows; ragwort; new orchard; the Redbridge Local Plan; the Shrubberies and the gravel extraction haul road.
- 10 **Front Gardens:** Ron Jeffries reported on Council Officer's involvement in monitoring untidy gardens.
11. **Newbury Park Lifts:** RJ reported there is to be a resident-led opening on 27-10-18
12. **Planning:** Vanessa Cole reported on the difficulties caused by the new planning regulations
13. **Councillor John Howard's Report:** the new Landlords' Charter was discussed regarding proper waste disposal
14. **AOB:** Andy Walker reported on the new Estates Strategy Plan and its effect on King George's Hospital.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm. Jenny Chalmers, Chair October 2018

**Agenda for the Next Meeting Tuesday 29th October, 2019, 8.00pm
at St Peter's Church Hall, Aldborough Road North**

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 26-10-18
4. Matters Arising
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee
7. Election of Auditor
8. Chair's Report
9. Any Other Business

Application for AHDA New Membership or Renewal for the year 2019/2020

Name.....Telephone.....

Address

Post Code..... Email.....

I enclose a donation of £..... Towards the cost of maintaining the Association, most money goes towards the printing of the newsletter and the cost of the website. (£5 or more per individual or family will be gratefully received).

Signed

Date

Please hand in at the AGM or contact us via the website www.ahda.org.uk