

# Mottingham Residents Association

## Newsletter and Notice of General Meeting

### – Summer 2021 –

Welcome to our summer newsletter.



**THE 88th AGM OF THE MRA Scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020 was cancelled.**

## NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

There will be a General Meeting of the **MOTTINGHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION** on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October At 7:00 pm in St. Andrew's Church Hall, 233 Court Rd, London SE9 4TQ.

## COMMITTEE MATTERS

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

*With the ongoing Covid pandemic 2020/21 has continued to be a difficult time for many of us. It has meant your Executive have again been unable to meet in person but we have continued to meet virtually in order to monitor and discuss local issues that affect our community.*

*Dorset Road school, having been closed by The Spring Partnership Trust, remains an empty, dormant site. We await news as to what LBB's plans are for the site. Hopefully your MRA will be able to have some input as to its future use.*

*The Porcupine planning application by LiDL was again refused by LBB Councillors, pretty much on the same road safety issues as before. LiDL refused to accept this and have again gone to national appeal. It is likely to be 2022 before this is dealt with. Parking around Eltham College remains a problem, both in Mottingham Lane at morning and afternoon school times, and also now in Grove Park Road at weekends when sports events are taking place. Hopefully the newly installed double yellow lines - which may need extending further - will help.*

*We aim finally to be able to hold a 'live' General Meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> at St Andrew's Church Hall. I hope as many as possible of you will be able to attend. We need some new Executive Members, Officers and Road Stewards. Please volunteer if you can.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

*Due to the Covid pandemic the Executive felt it was unreasonable to ask our Road Stewards to undertake door to door collections and so agreed to waive Subs for 2020/21. Expenditure was limited mainly to annual insurance renewal and the contribution to the Festive Lights. Therefore in the last audited year the cost to the Association was £850*

*We plan to recommence Subs collection for 2021/22 and will seek a small 50p increase*

*(up to £3) at the General Meeting as Subs have not risen for many years. Some of the increase will be put towards new planters planned for the Village next summer. We understand LBB will provide the physical planters and soil but the MRA and Horticultural Society volunteers (possibly with some being adopted) will plant and maintain them.*

## PLANNING ISSUES

**PORCUPINE CLOSE 5G** Plans have been submitted to Royal Borough of Greenwich for an 18m high communications mast and associated ground cabinets. For reference, the street lights are 10m tall.

**GROVE PARK ROAD 5G** Plans are afoot to install overhead communications cables to houses in Grove Park Road via a series of wooden 'telegraph' poles.

**FLOWER BOUTIQUE**, Court Road. Application has been made for change of use to yet another takeaway.

**CAPEL MANOR COLLEGE**, Mottingham Lane. Plans have been circulated proposing significant investment and upgrading of the buildings and facilities on the site. The planned alterations are almost entirely within the current building footprint and will not only provide a welcome improvement in facilities and services, but also benefits to the community. MRA has endorsed the plans as a significant improvement incorporating enhancement of community aspects.

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

*This extraordinary year for all of us has resulted in some respite for the loyal Road Stewards, since Covid restrictions prevented the usual practices for the collection of subscriptions and member registration. Nevertheless, we did manage to produce an Autumn Newsletter which was circulated to all residences, and special thanks are due to the gallant small band of door-stuffers.*

*Membership is uncertain, with changes unregistered in 2020-2021 since subs were waived.*

*Alternative methods of collection of subscriptions are under investigation possibly incorporating the website. It is inevitable that face-to-face collections are preferable to foster social contact, but times are changing.*

*We would still welcome volunteers to act as Road Stewards in order to cover some retirements and to reduce the load on some individuals. The commitment required is collection of subs and member registration and distribution of two Newsletter editions, one of which happens with subs collection. Occasionally there will be requests to distribute additional important paperwork.*

*We currently have Road Steward vacancies for Beaconsfield Road (part), Bill Hamling Close, Birbetts Road, Chapel Farm Road (part), Highcombe Close, Luxfield Road, Mottingham Lane (part), Mottingham Road (part), West Park (part). If you would be prepared to undertake one of these areas, please e-mail to [membsec@yourmra.org](mailto:membsec@yourmra.org)*

## FESTIVE LIGHTS REPORT



Concern about the Covid-effect on funding for the 2020 Festive lights proved unfounded. An appeal letter distributed with the October Newsletter yielded contributions from residents beyond expectations. Contributions from local tradespeople reflected the diminished footfall in difficult times, but over £4,000 was donated. The display easily equalled previous quality and the usual Christmas tree was well baubled but not lit this year. We are working with Bromley Council to enable lighting of some failed columns.

## OTHER NEWS

### Foxes Field Bridge

Thanks to Bromley Council for the substantial replacement bridge to nowhere over the Quaggy on Foxes Field.

### Mottingham Woods

Did you know that 10 years ago, **Friends of Mottingham Woods** won a London in Bloom award for their Marvels Wood Project ? Their influence can be discovered in Elmstead and Marvels woods which I am sure many of us have used to good effect over lockdown. Future planned projects are "Juniper Falls" and a "River and Wetlands" in Lower Marvels Wood. Brian Gaskell would like to hear from you at e-mail [friendsofmottinghamwoods@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmottinghamwoods@gmail.com)

### Traffic Issues

We are fortunate to be free from some of the LTN issues experienced by neighbouring areas. Greenwich Councillors are addressing traffic issues at our request and are to conduct their own 'impact survey' in **West Hallowes** following the reluctance of the RBG Council to take any action other than a 20 mph (aspirational) limit and speed cushions. It is feared that only a serious accident will achieve a resolution to a problem exacerbated by the algorithms in SatNavs.

**Court Road** traffic queues are also being addressed, and RBG and TfL have been persuaded to review the traffic light sequencing at the A20 junction.

### War Memorial

The 2020 Remembrance Memorial Service was significantly curtailed, but we hope to return to normal this November.

**Mottingham on the Map campaign.** Following submissions from the MRA and more than 250 residents as well as the Greenwich Ward Councillors, the Boundary Commission was persuaded to add 'Mottingham' to the Coldharbour & New Eltham title. The ward also now includes The Tarn, Tarnwood Park and Woodmere.

### Water Leaks and Potholes

Residents may have noticed the proliferation of roadworks happening recently. There have been some delays in implementation due to reluctance to accept responsibility for repairs passing between Thames Water, Councils and TfL. Reporting of issues which you think need to be addressed is most easily achieved by reporting problems

on FixMyStreet websites. Links to these may be found on the Councils page on the MRA website. (see QR code below)

### Jarman & Dixon



Readers will be sorry to hear of the retirement of Bharti and Prakash Patel, from Jarman & Dixon Pharmacist in Mottingham Road. They have run the pharmacy for 32 years and are beginning a well-deserved retirement. Their dedication, professionalism and commitment to their customers and the community has been remarkable. We wish them a long and happy retirement.



---

**The Mottingham Horticultural Society's Autumn Show - Sat. August 28<sup>th</sup>** will be held once again from **2:30 pm** in **King George's Hall at Eltham College**, with tea and cakes available in good company all afternoon, with Mottingham Concert Band making a welcome return to provide live music adding to the relaxed atmosphere.

Anyone can enter and the exhibit categories include flowers, pot plants, fruit, vegetables, cakes, bread, jam, pickles, wine, beer, photographs, embroidery, knitting, painting, flower arrangements. . .

Of course, there are awards for each category and also silver cups for the champions. Presentations will be at 4:30 pm.

If you have never entered an exhibit before, why not have a go ? Even if it's only one photograph or one flower this time.

Show schedules and entry forms will be available at the library, from MHS officers, at Mottingham Floral Arrangement Society or on the MRA website ([www.yourMRA.org](http://www.yourMRA.org)) <http://www.yourmra.org/horticultural-autumn-show-guide-and-application/>



---

## CURRENT OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

*May be contacted via website*

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>Laurie Bell</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Laurie Bell</b>
<b>DEPUTY CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>Richard Mainwaring-Burton</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Robert Blanks</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	<b>Richard Mainwaring-Burton</b>
<b>AUDITOR</b>	<b>Bernie Hawes</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS :</b>	
<b>Sally Bettesworth</b>	<b>Carol Borhani Astrid Chklar</b>
<b>Jane Cornish</b>	<b>James Martin Lesley Robins</b>

