

ADRA Meeting Minutes

Alton House Hotel, Alton
7.30 – 9pm, 15th October 2019

Minutes taken by Ashdell RA

Attendees – Becci May (Chair), John Field, Peter Field, Sue Bottomley, Gordon Anderson, Charles Kaye, Louise Parker, Giles Lock, Pat Lerew, Mike Heelis, Simon Stoodley, Mike Hayward

Apologies – Mark Lanchbery, Marian Allen, John Grace, Robin Lees

Becci reminded members to pay £20 subscription to John Field

1. Minutes of last meeting (July 2019) were approved.
2. ADRA's website update (John F)
John F gave a resume of the numbers and has since distributed a full report to members. There's been some drop off in visitors, which is a reminder that we should continue to signpost people to the site. It was suggested that John emails members when he puts information on the website, so we can post people to this.
3. The Wey Walk; Pocket Park (Louise)

Louise updated members on progress. These initiatives are now benign referred to as the 'green lungs of Alton'. Louise asked if anyone was available to help the Alton Society on the morning of Sunday October 20th in the flood meadows.

4. Alton Matters - Action Sub-group (replaced Town Team)
The Town Team has not met since the last meeting. Becci reported that Town Team has been replaced with Alton Matter 'Action sub-group'. **Pat Lerew, as a member of Alton Matters, agreed to find out more.**

5. ADRA community actions: Suggested way forward with the list of tasks; Speedwatch opportunity; Alton Society litter pick 26th October; Adopt a station group; other suggestions?

A general discussion took place around the 'list of tasks'. No-one had yet volunteered. Becci suggested that there are a number of tasks which we can be proactive on as any of us walk around Alton. For example, Church Triangle RA do their Community Watch, where members of the RA volunteer to go out when they can to keep an eye on their neighbourhood. This was done in an organised way, but now RA members organise themselves and go out when they can. It was suggested that things like cleaning road signs, weeding pavements, picking up litter, recording problem pavements and potholes, can be done as we walk anywhere in Alton, and we can promote this action amongst our RAs. We can all take active pride in Alton. It was recommended that we report back to ADRA on what we've done and take some photos, which could be used for publicity and to raise awareness.

John agreed to arrange for there to be somewhere on the ADRA website where we can post these report and photos – an 'action' page.

Members were encouraged to take this idea to their RAs, and advertise and promote any works that are carried out.

Mike Hayward reported that he'd already surveyed the cycling route from the train station to Chawton, and they'd submitted recommendations to the Town Council. Ackender Road RA had also spoken to ATC about instating a 20mph speed limit on Ackender Road and a few other roads. They have a

petition which has got around 600 signatures. This will be discussed at the Hampshire County Council Transport Committee on 7th November.

Louise offered to put the petition online via a survey monkey.

John Field attended a speedwatch meeting and reported to members about their general success. A list of roads have been made and ADRA has been asked if we can support this, helping to put the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – maybe an hour once a month, taking down the SIDs, putting a new battery in and putting them up somewhere else, on rotation. Alton Town Council have bought 3 Speed Signs for use around the town. The list of roads has been proposed by a sub-committee at ATC. **Members to take to their RAs and ask for volunteers for speedwatch rotas.**

Becci also reported that there's a new initiative called 'adopt a station', and Alton has been adopted by a number of organisations. This group could help improve the station forecourt.

The meeting agreed to start the process of inviting new Town Councillors along to ADRA meetings. Contact will be made with Pam Jones in the first instance, as Leader of the Town Council. **Becci will work with Mark to send an invite to Pam Jones to our next meeting.**

Becci also mentioned that there's an Alton Climate Action Network meeting on 9 November. This group seems to be gaining a lot of interest and momentum.

6. Planning / development issues (important updates / proposed actions for ADRA)

- Neighbourhood Plan – Mike Heelis reported that the SG is active and the monitoring report is to be circulated, and is also available on the Neighbourhood Plan website
- Local Plan (LP) consultation – large development sites consultation has finished.
- Coors Brewery site – There was a rigorous meeting to discuss this. Alton Society and Amery Hill RA had written very good responses. Members were supportive of ATC's response. Councillors echoed AS and AHRA views.
- Treloars School, Holybourne – a meeting will be held on 25th October
- Lord Mayor Treloars site – work will soon begin
- Butts Bridge construction – further delays reported – **Mark L to email Andrew Joy to ask whether there has been any consideration regarding re-routing once Butts Bridge is completed**, as concern was expressed about traffic continuing to use the diversion routes once the bridge has been completed as short cuts.
- Sports Centre – Mike Heelis provided an update, which has been circulated to members since the meeting.
- Kings Arms Alton – approved. No further news.
- Waterbrook Estate 24 hour HGV movements – awaiting final response.
- Police Station & Law Courts – McCarthy & Stone – concern was expressed about the proposal – expecting a planning application soon.
- Lynch Hill – this has been approved; may go to a judicial review
- Binsted recycling site – one to keep an eye on.

7. Any other issues of wider relevance from RAs and Alton Society for info / action (All) – Sue raised a question about how to deal with neighbours asking her to share information about suspicious activities in the neighbourhood – facebook, email? There are a number of facebook pages which seem to do this. Caution needed. Sue to discuss with Mike Heelis after the meeting, with respect to Neighbourhood Watch.

8. Date of next meeting. 26th Nov date needs to be moved as there was another meeting on the same evening and a number of people would not be able to attend. **Becci to sort out a new date with Mark.**

ADRA Objectives

- To share knowledge and experiences to enable each Residents' Group or Association (RGA) and other organisations to be as effective as possible in meeting their aims, and to facilitate the formation of new RGAs.
- To act as a lobby platform to influence decisions for the benefit of Alton residents.
- To monitor the Alton Neighbourhood Plan, planning applications and local developments to ensure they deliver benefit for Alton residents.