

HCCA AGM 2020

Chairman's Report

Hello. Thank you for “coming” – switching on and logging in. This is definitely a first for us and I fervently hope a last as well.

We will just be dealing with the business side of the Association tonight. As usual my report covers the period from last AGM, while our financial report covers the year from April 19 to April 20.

I am going to read my report as I want to say our thankyou's not just write them.

This has been a strange year as you can all understand but it has also been a heart-warming year for many aspects of community. Support groups have sprung up, neighbours helping neighbours and so on. I am sure we can all play our part to try and ensure that that continues and indeed develops. Ideas would always be welcome.

I was very pleased to have an enlarged committee with new members eager to assist in taking the CA forward. I would like to say a big thank you, in particular, to those who have taken some of the load off my shoulders. Carol Walton now manages our email box, Caroline looks after all noticeboard matters and Norma has done a sterling job in taking on and developing our e-bulletin which is going out in gradually increasing numbers. Gary decided during the year that being on the committee was a commitment too far, but I am very pleased that he agreed to maintain and improve our website, which he has done.

Brenda continues to look after our finances in a very efficient way and our thanks go to her for her ongoing support and work both as company secretary and treasurer. I want also to thank Chris, Heather and Carol Lilwall for their contributions to our work. I want to say a particular thank you to Carol Lilwall, who, for health reasons, is having to step down from our Committee after 5 years. Many of you

will know the huge contribution that Carol has made particularly in Cliftonwood in developing and the Town Green, organising community events, supporting mums and mums to be, brightening the local streets etc. etc. Her contribution will go on being felt for many a year yet. Thank you Carol.

Outside of the committee I must say a special thank you to Anna Wilson who continues to project manage the gradual development of improvements to the Piazza, and amongst other things is therefore helping us fulfil the legacy left to the CA by Ray Smith.

And thank you again to those who look after our noticeboards, which we feel are a vital form of communication for us.

We started the year by taking quite a detailed look at all aspects of what we do and how we do it. Fresh eyes and minds have helped us to refresh our ideas for the website, develop content and style for our e-bulletin, open a Facebook page and review the management arrangements with respect to the Piazza. This also led us to decide to commit to a community survey which has just been completed. We will be sharing the outcomes of that survey with everyone we can and using it to inform where we spend our energies over the next year and more.

If we had not had this pandemic some of you might have enjoyed a special visit to Ashton Court Mansion. Hopefully we will be able to offer this and more such visits to places of interest next year. Ideas are always welcome.

We continue to keep a watchful eye on plans for developments in this area. I am doing my best to provide both a constructive and critical contribution to the Western Harbour “plan” through both the Cumberland Basin Stakeholder Group and through my involvement with the Western Harbour Advisory Group. I will do my best to keep people posted. More in a moment from my CBSG report.

I will finish with 2 pleas to all of you. First to assist us in finding more new members for our committee. Gain some, lose some, is of course the natural course of things. But the truth is for many, many years now we have never gained enough to feel we can really develop our activities, provide community events and the like, perhaps publish a local magazine again and so on. You will be aware I think that 3 members of our committee do not live in our area and yet they continue to give of their time to this community. I would like your help in finding other folks within our community who would be happy to help build and develop this CA during some or all of the 2020s.

My second plea is for someone to help us research exactly – or as close as we can – the date when the Community Association came into existence. The early 70s is as close as I have got as yet. We are about to move into the early 20s and so we will be celebrating 50 years sometime soon! We should do it in a fulsome fashion and as near to the date as we can.

We shall of course be spreading these pleas on a wider basis, but your help will be much appreciated

Thank you. That concludes my report