

## **Turney Road Residents Association Annual General Meeting 2022**

The 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Turney Road Residents Association (TRRA) was held on Tuesday 3 May at 20:00 at the Dulwich Sports Club, Giant Arches Road (off Burbage Road), London SE24 9HP.

Upon arrival, Turney Road residents were handed paper copies of the AGM agenda as well as Chair's and Treasurer's reports for the past 15 months.

### **1. Welcome and introductions**

TRRA Chair Caroline Connellan welcomed the twenty residents attending the meeting (representing fourteen households). Apart from Caroline (158), Committee members Clive Hill-Archer (127), Mike Samra (152) and Jo and Ged McEwan (113) were present, while the other Committee members, including Secretary Tilly McEwan (113) and Treasurer Paul Gibbs (184), sent their excuses. Also present were three guests, namely Dulwich Sports Club (DSC) Chairman Nikhil Roy, and James Thompson and Sue Badman of the Dulwich Society (DS).

### **2. Chair's report**

Caroline began by explaining that she had taken over as Chair from Michael Wilkins at the TRAA AGM in February 2021. Later that month, the then newly elected Committee held their first meeting, initially focusing on ways to inform residents about the TRRA electronic newsletter and the expansion of the street WhatsApp group. In the course of the year, the Committee met regularly, first over Zoom and then in person, tackling a range of matters on behalf of residents, and keeping them informed of the main issues through the newsletter. It was decided that different Committee members would take on specific responsibilities including liaising with the local sports clubs, schools, Council, the Dulwich Estate, the Dulwich Society, and the Dulwich Police and Crime Liaison Committee.

The most prominent issue of the year had been London's Low Traffic Neighborhoods (LTNs). In June 2021, a survey was undertaken to determine the residents' views. Some 106 responses came from Turney Road residents, with 68 per cent supporting the overall aims of (i) increasing active travel by creating safe, pollution-free routes, and (ii) reducing the overall dominance of motor vehicles on our roads. However, that support did not translate into support for the current measures: 72 per cent wished to see the Dulwich Village junction re-open with either no restrictions (44 per cent) or by replacing the existing arrangements with timed camera restrictions.

To represent the views of the majority, the TRRA held meetings with Councillor Catherine Rose, Southwark Council Cabinet member responsible for the LTNs; the two Ward Councillors; with the Dulwich Estate; the Dulwich Society; and other residents' associations. Members of the TRRA and the Burbage Road Residents' Association met MP Helen Hayes to discuss joint concerns over the Council's rejection of the views of the

majority of residents, as well as wider road safety concerns. However, the prevailing feeling was that residents were not properly heard or even acknowledged. The LTNs were made permanent in early 2022, with reduced hours of restrictions in certain roads. The TRRA will have to keep on pressing the message, possibly amidst new dynamics in the Village and adjoining areas, as a consequence of the results of the local elections on 5 May.

Other important relationships for the TRRA are those with the three sports clubs to the north and south sides of the road. In the past year, the Dulwich Sports Club had generously offered free social membership to residents. They were also kindly hosting the AGM, as well as another recent TRRA meeting. For their part, several residents spent a morning at the Dulwich Sports Ground helping to fill holes and spread grass seed to improve the pitches. Besides, the TRRA was now organising a litter picking session at the Dulwich Sports Ground on Saturday 14 May, between 10:00-12:30. Caroline also mentioned that as part of the current dialogue, discussions were underway on residents' access to the sports grounds.

Caroline finally thanked all the Committee members for their hard work throughout the year, adding that she had enjoyed getting to know them.

### 3. Treasurer's report and accounts

The TRRA account with NatWest is now closed. The remaining balance was £51.46 and we have a cheque for that amount, which the TRRA intends to donate to charity if possible and will liaise with the bank to action. Another £1,042.12 - the TRRA share of a joint account with the Burbage Road Residents Association, representing the surplus from joint street parties organised before the lockdown - also remains.

### 4. Election of officers

Caroline explained that due to work commitments, this was to be her final AGM as Chair although she planned to remain on the Committee. While Paul Gibbs was happy for his name to be put forward once again as Treasurer, Tilly McEwan was resigning as Secretary and as Committee member. Caroline thanked Tilly for her excellent job as Secretary. Clive Hill-Archer and Katya Leney-Hall agreed to be nominated as Chair and Secretary respectively. A vote was held amongst those present and the new Committee was duly elected unanimously. Residents wished the new Committee well.

#### Committee 2022-2023

Clive Hill-Archer, Chair

Paul Gibbs, Treasurer

Katya Leney-Hall, Secretary

Caroline Connellan

Elizabeth Mahoney

Ged McEwan

Jo McEwan

James Offord

Linda Roberts  
Mike Samra

## 5. Guest speakers

Nikhil Roy made a brief presentation on the DSC facilities, encouraging Turney Road members who were not already using the Club for sport (cricket, football, tennis, croquet and squash), to become social members by getting in touch with him (roynikhil@aol.com, 07848932958). The annual cost of the social membership is £30 per household and there are substantial discounts at the well stocked Club bar, open between 18:00-23:00 on weekdays and 12:00-22:00 on weekends. Upon request, social members are also entitled to the use of the (secondary) Turney Road entrance to Club grounds, normally accessed through Burbage Road.

Nikhil finally said that the DSC doors will be open on Friday 3 June between 12:00-20:00. To mark the Platinum Jubilee Weekend celebrations, a BBQ will be held to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 70 years of service to the country. Nikhil extended his warm invitation to all Turney and Burbage roads residents.

DS Chairman James Thompson briefly introduced the DS, stating that its main objectives are to foster and safeguard the amenities of Dulwich, and to increase awareness of the area's varied character. More specifically, James explained that recent projects include the placement of a series of plaques to commemorate those killed by the Second World War bombing, contributing £5,000 to the maintenance of the paths in Sydenham Hill Wood, and purchasing - for £1 - a disused telephone box from BT in Herne Hill and repurposing it by installing a defibrillator.

The 1,200 member-strong DS also initiated the public meeting that led to the re-opening of the Herne Hill Velodrome and worked closely with the Heritage of London Trust on the reconstruction of the Concrete House in Lordship Lane. It enabled the refurbishment of Rosebery Lodge in Dulwich Park as a community facility and contributed towards the reconstruction of the children's playground. It re-erected the historic red post at the top of Red Post Hill Lodge and on two consecutive years organised public access to the historic Dulwich Village Burial Ground. The DS supports tree planting on streets and in public open spaces, organises regular local history talks and walks, and undertakes projects in partnership with Southwark Council in their annual Cleaner Greener Safer scheme. Annual membership is £10 a year and this entitles members to the quarterly printed journal and a monthly digital newsletter. For those who want to find more and how to join, the DS website is <https://www.dulwichsociety.com>.

DS Vice-Chair and former TRRA Chair Sue Badman thanked the TRRA for maintaining good relationships with the adjacent sports grounds and ensuring that there are codes of conduct in place to enable residents to use the grounds. She praised the litter picking efforts to keep the grounds tidy. She reminded the TRRA Chair and Committee that if they had issues they wanted to raise with the Dulwich Estate they could fix an

appointment with the Estate at their regular monthly surgeries (first Monday of each month).

#### 6. Questions from residents

Caroline then invited questions from those present. Liam O'Byrne (250) mentioned that he felt the views of those in favour of LTNs were not given due attention and asked how the Committee was planning to put forward those views. Frances Halliwell (248) agreed with him. Caroline replied that the purpose of the survey had been to determine the views of the street to determine the majority position, and it was those views that this Committee had to present to the relevant parties. She also encouraged Liam and anyone else who felt under-represented to become more involved in the TRRA.

#### 7. Close

On behalf of the 2021-2022 Committee, Caroline thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished the new Committee well in their work the year ahead.

Mike Samra thanked Caroline for her commitment to the TRRA in the past year and presented her with some flowers and a bottle of wine on behalf of the Committee.