

The H.O.M.E. Residents' Association

www.home.addiscombe.net

15th Annual General Meeting 7th September 2019

Report from The Chair - 2018 and 2019

This is the 15th Annual General Meeting / social gathering of HOME Residents Association. Some have worked hard over these years and however small or huge their involvement was it has improved our "lot".

Achievements in the last 15 years that have led to a nicer H.O.M.E environment:

- We now have neighbours and neighbourhood – we have a H.O.M.E community – everyone is welcome!
- Conservation Area status was granted in 2008. This gives us better quality development.
- New street lighting with heritage design lamps in 2016.
- The new conservation area street signs have made the streets smarter in 2017.
- New trees in Elgin Road 2018.
- We have a web page – www.home.addiscombe.net – please use it, contribute, be informed
- HERON – a joint magazine of HOME and CHASE Residents' Associations. Two issues were published.
- Become a member!!! How we keep in touch with you is by emails. Its easiest and quickest.

The H.O.M.E Residents' Association (RA) was formed in 2004 and exists for the benefit of the residents in Havelock Road, Outram Road, Mulberry Lane, Elgin Road and Ashburton Road/Gardens/Close and the sections of Lower Addiscombe and Addiscombe Road between those roads.

It aims to preserve, conserve and improve the environment in the H.O.M.E roads as well as in outlying areas that have an effect on our area. For this reason, we see great benefit in working with neighbouring residents' associations for the Addiscombe community.

The biggest threats to the quality of our environment and the neighbourhood in 2018 have come from traffic displacement from Addiscombe West and a few unsympathetic building developments. Rubbish bins and satellite dishes blighting the faces of the houses.

Detrimental issue that has distressed our community: TRAFFIC CHANGES in January 2018

Increase in traffic caused by the rash and possibly political move to carry on with piecemeal changes to traffic in East Croydon area. The whole area between Cherry Orchard Road inclusive of Clyde Road has lost access to Lower Addiscombe Road since January 2018. This has happened in spite of the efforts of ALL residents' associations in Addiscombe East and West Wards to get an area wide review since Nov 2016.

Miriam, Bob, Martyn and Norman have worked tirelessly on looking into the reasons, the decisions, the traffic data, creating tables and trying to find a solution for the Addiscombe community.

Havelock Road, Outram Road, Mulberry Lane, Elgin Road & Ashburton Road/Close/Gardens

Looking after the concerns of local residents

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Miriam, as a lawyer, has spent hours reading the small print and has followed them up. We have three community meetings and one HOME meeting in the last year. We have not managed to get our message heard. The Addiscombe West community has gained less traffic on account of Elgin Rd and Havelock Road. This has also frustrated residents in surrounding roads, in CHASE RA and ASPRA RA. The only proposal being put forward by the Council is to make our roads NO ENTRY from Lower Addiscombe Road.

Here is the latest email from Mike Barton, Highway Improvement Manager, Highways,:

On Fri, Sep 6, 2019 at 8:44 AM Barton, Mike <MIKE.BARTON@croydon.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Miriam De Souza, I take on board your view that there is sufficient time to make changes to the recent traffic survey report. [Miriam has asked for a 24 h report as well as for making allowances in the report for the missing data] As you know, we will shortly be consulting local residents of your area on a package of one-way working, as agreed in principal at our recent meeting with representatives of the residents' associations, local ward councillors and the Member of Parliament. The results of this consultation will be reported back to a TMAC meeting in early 2020, and given local concerns, the traffic survey report will also be updated in time for that meeting.

Kind regards, Mike Barton, Tel: 020 8726 6000 Ext 61977

You will find all the relevant documents and information on our web page.

HOME in Bloom 2019 – nominations took place in May this year with judging taking place at the end of May. The competition is hard to judge as our front gardens are so varied both in size and in maturity. Carol, Sue, Stan and Mira will be looking for helpers for the next year.

HOME Clean-Ups – organised by Tim Duce, Elgin Road resident and Elgin Road Street Champion. Details and dates are always on our web site. The next one is on 15th September.

Trees in Elgin Road – some trees were planted in 2018 but some are still to be planted.

Addiscombe Triangle - The trees have already been planted last year. The bulbs planted did not come out. Carol has secured new bulbs from the Council for this autumn. Contact Carol Porter to help with planting.

Satellite dishes: Satellite dishes cannot be affixed to the front of the properties where they can be seen from the street. The Council will order them to be taken down and repositioned. The Conservation Officer, Sanne Roberts has given us some guidelines for mounting them in an acceptable way. See web.

Noise –Noise in the neighbourhood can make you feel ill and very angry. There are Council contacts for you to call if the noise is unreasonable and persistent.

Planning: We have a Planning section on the web listing the new planning applications. Development has great impact on our environment and has always given us most work. We are involving and coaching more people on this task of how to review planning applications. Just because we are a conservation area does not mean there will be no planning developments.

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Some of the bigger planning applications relevant now – please help us by reviewing and or objecting:

55 Ashburton Road, Farley Croft – an appeal to build a house in the corner of the grounds – take leaflet Appletree Cottage – refused by the Council and has gone to Appeal. A small house in Ashburton Road which the applicant proposes to demolish and build a block of flats in its place.

19 Ashburton Road, an existing unsightly back garden development - to use it as a single dwelling.

60 Outram Road – a bungalow has been demolished to create a block of 6 flats. It is being built now.

40-42 Elgin Road – the council has retrospectively approved conversion into 6 flats (16m² – 22 m² in size)

HOME has started a complaint procedure at stage 1, which would take this to Local Government

Ombudsman. However due to time required to do this this was not taken to stage 2. The front of this property is an eyesore. The residents are often a nuisance. What is the use of Landlords Licensing?

Socials and community events and meetings

The New Year Social in January 2018 was generously hosted by the Hopkins Family, over 50 people attended, we had a great time. We are planning one for 2020. It is usually second weekend in January.

Addiscombe Jumble Trail – a joint event with other Addiscombe East residents' association. All the proceeds went to Lower Addiscombe Road Christmas Lights. This year it is on **15th September**. Join with your neighbours and have a joint front garden stall. (a leaflet to register is available at the AGM today)

Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel - attended by Melanie de Villiers and Norman Young. Melanie coordinates Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. The new Addiscombe East Ward panel as far as we know has not become active.

Mid - Croydon Conservation Area Advisory Panel – HOME is represented by Mira. This Panel comments on the planning applications in all Conservation Areas.

Much can be done if you are passionate and persistent. Please initiate, join, lead and share in any present and future issues of importance to you and of potential benefit to our community. We have created friendships which would not have happened otherwise.

If it was not for that planning application, or this rubbish heap or the pain of the traffic changes we would have missed on meeting some great people. There is some gain in the pain!

Mira Armour, AGM 2019

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