



Dear Member

Thank you for your continued support and help, we are pleased to present you our report on the activities performed on your behalf since September.

We continue to operate the committee on a rotational basis between the existing committee members, and we are still looking for a permanent Chair and Vice Chair Person.

We took a number of decisions at the previous AGM that have ensured that the association continues to serve the residents, this included a new subscriptions collection process and an increase to the annual subscription so that the rising costs of printing etc. are kept under control.

A summary of the activities that the members have performed is provided below:

The Post Master is representing ASPRA on a working group set up to create an independent Croydon Resident's Groups Forum (CRGF). This developed from a Croydon Council initiative (Strategic Partnership) which was felt to be unfairly representative of the views of Croydon Residents Associations, with only four places from across the borough. Currently over 50 residents groups have been identified so far. Work to create a directory which can feed into CRGF is underway and the inaugural meeting is planned for May. The Postmaster has taken on the role of information coordinator for the CRGF directory. CRGF aims to create ways of communicating between formally constituted residents groups and Croydon Council in an effective manner over common issues such as planning, parking, transport and the image of Croydon.

The Croydon Communities Consortium is a council funded group planned to coordinate various groups across the borough (including residents associations). There have been a number of issues with finance, representation and interactions with the council. The Post Master has attended meetings and is remaining aware of their activities, however the view across many of the groups involved with this consortium is that it currently is not making a real impact.

The Secretary attended a meeting of the Croydon Voluntary Sector Alliance. Whilst we have registered as part of Croydon's voluntary sectors and there was at least one other resident's association who attended the meeting it is felt that due to the wide spectrum of volunteering covered the meeting was not particularly relevant, although interesting. We shall remain registered and watch how this alliance develops.

The Mayor of Croydon is very interested in Croydon's voluntary sector and arranged a series of evening events at the town hall for her to meet people involved and give the volunteers the opportunity to see the Mayor's Parlour and the Council Chambers. Some of the road reps and committee attended one of these evenings and had an interesting time.

As you were aware the previous chairperson had submitted a strong claim for the Addiscombe area to be granted Local Heritage Area designation, the decision of which is still pending due to handover issues at Croydon Council.

The treasurer has noted that the centralisation of the subscription and membership process has proved more efficient in obtaining membership numbers and attaching the financial records to date. Significant costs have included printing and expenses for hall hire.

Thank you for your continued support, as always please direct any questions to the committee.