



## Albert Square And St. Stephens Association

### **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016, at St Stephen's Church**

#### **Introduction**

The Chairman, Rosemary Eillis, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced Marcus Warren, from Fentiman Road

#### **Attendance**

A list of those who attended the meeting is attached.

#### **Apologies**

Paul Mawdsley  
Sundiata Dixon-Fyle  
Neil Sanders/Viv Aylmer  
Leo Pilkington

#### **Minutes of 2015 AGM**

The minutes of last year's AGM held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 were approved

#### **Chairman's review**

We now had the build-outs in Aldebert Terrace. Our thanks to Sue Edwards who led the project and to the people who came out and helped on the day.



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We plan for the build-out at the bottom of Aldebert Terrace. The kick-off of that project was delayed but we are going to put forward another day.

We are looking to work on build-out next to the cycle hire station in Albert Square and talking with a gardening company to manage that.

Copper beech trees have been delivered and our thanks to Viv Aylmer for procuring those and ensuring they were financed and planted.

Communal bins – We have had them moved from the Square to the approach road. They have moved back and forwards a couple of times but seem relatively settled. We were promised funding for some form of fencing around the bins and that is still on the drawing board but we hope to hear from Alex Bigham about those plans.

Cycle hangars – We have now had two hangars installed in St Stephen's Terrace. We hope to see more cycle hangars and we've suggested having those near the bins as this may help deter people from waste tipping there.

On planning issues, Viv Aylmer and Neil Edwards continue to monitor. There are no great issues at the moment. We are looking at working with the conservation officers at Lambeth on some guidelines for the area, in particular with regard to in-fills in Lambeth Square.

We are finding it difficult to maintain regular relations with the police. They no longer have the resources to do this and we are aware we need to build this up. David Tomlinson used to do this job fantastically but has retired. We have had a number of burglaries recently, car tyres slashed and we're aware that the information is difficult to get hold of and share with the police.

We receive good donations from filming and we're particularly pleased that we have agreed new guidelines with Lambeth Film Office thanks to Peter Edwards's hard work to establish those new guidelines. These also establish



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funding processes and guidelines for things like removal of parking spaces. We note that the filming people often push the boundaries. We will make sure the guidelines are on the website.

### **Events**

We've held another community freshview, which was a great success and many thanks to Bill for providing the Church for drinks and food afterwards.

We note that our street cleaner has been asked to come less often to our streets but that Lambeth is now coming round and using weed-killer rather than regularly cleaning these up.

We also held a Trash or Treasure which worked well as a community event. We are looking for ways to extend that.

We have two future events:

Freshview on 1<sup>st</sup> October

Picnic in the Square lunchtime on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September

### **Traffic**

We have been raising issues about traffic volumes for several years. Various measures have been brought in with various degrees of success.

The humps are still not much loved but we note that the build outs have worked well to slow down traffic. In particular, TARA is very pleased with the build-outs there, which have had a major impact on traffic.

We've agreed with our other residents associations that we should work together to look at the triangle as a whole, namely the SOV Triangle, and



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try and find a solution to reduce the amount of through traffic in our streets. We joined Fentiman Road Residents Association to look at working with other residents associations to address the issue.

We have asked Marcus Warren from Fentiman Road to talk about the petition they have started in their street.

Marcus told us that he had lived here for 20 years. He said that residents on his street are increasingly fed up and, independent of their residents association, they have started to agitate on behalf of Fentiman Road and surrounding streets. Councillor Jack Hopkins is planning to raise the petition with Lambeth Council tomorrow evening. Marcus asked us to try and get support from our councillors and to back the Fentiman petition. The petition is aimed only at raising awareness about the issue at this stage. Marcus believes that Jack Hopkins intends to take the petition to TfL. He would dearly love ASSA residents to support the Fentiman petition.

Marcus told us that in some Lambeth streets, lorries are prohibited based on a weight limit.

Peter Edwards noted that we had previously had agreement with Lambeth to prohibit HGVs in our streets but that nothing had come of this.

We noted that ASSA had written to the Mayor's office but had been largely brushed off.

We have had debates about this at ASSA before and note that the split is roughly 80/20 in favour of reducing motor traffic.

We noted that Ravensdon Street has managed to install a bollard to stop through traffic entirely.

ASSA is suggesting a complementary petition to the Fentiman petition, and to sign the Fentiman petition as well. Fentiman notes that the pressure of



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182 signatories and campaigning is extremely useful. We agreed to keep the pressure on after the summer.

Bill Wilson suggested we think about possible solutions, not just objections. We noted that Lambeth at one point offered a gate at the top of Albert Square and also suggested a one-way system. Both TfL and Lambeth need to be part of the solution.

The Chairman welcomed Alex Bigham to the meeting and introduced him to Marcus Warren and the discussion about excessive through traffic in our streets.

Susan Bewley suggested we should consider trialing solutions across the whole of the SOV Triangle. Darshak Shah suggested that it might be easier to get consensus in a smaller area.

Alex Bigham told us that the most effective solution was the one we could design together and talked about the approach with the Neighbourhood Enhancement Programme. He asked what we think had not worked about that scheme. Darshak Shah mentioned that the volume has not reduced and the speeds are still pretty quick. Peter Edwards mentioned that there has been an increase in heavy vehicles coming through. Rosemary mentioned that the no left turn at Oval was also increasing traffic through our streets.

Alex told us that the next full council meeting will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> October. We will aim our petition in time for that.

Alex Bigham updated us on the council's CLIP project, the cooperative local infrastructure partnership, The formal consultation has just closed. We should let Alex know of any initiatives we would like him to support in the local area, particularly capital projects.



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Michael Leapman asked for an update on Vauxhall Bus Station. Alex replied that there have been no recent updates since the consultation report.

Alex reminded us that overwhelming support for consultation does work, for example the Tate Library.

Darshak asked Alex if he had managed to find out how much Lambeth was earning from filming rights.

Alex talked about Street Champions

### Treasurer's Report

Sid presented his report to the meeting. In answer to a question, Peter explained that £150 in cheque donations was from people donating to the garden build-outs.

### Election of officers and committee members

#### Officers

Chair: Rosemary Ellis

Treasurer: Sid Stiles

Secretary: Danny Williams

Hon Auditor: Tony Andrews

#### Committee Members:

- a) Re-elected from last year



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Paul Mawdsley

Sundiatu Dixon-Fyle

Neil Sanders/Viv Aylmer

Peter Edwards

Bill Wilson

Leo Pilkington