



ROE GREEN VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION –
Annual General Meeting
Chair's Report for 2017/18

I would like to begin with paying tribute to those residents who passed away since our last AGM

Ron Marsh who lived in Goldsmith Lane died in July.

September saw **Ron Palmer** of Roe Lane leave us, as did a former resident of Roe Lane Ros Fawcett.

Frank Clare who used to run the shops in Stag Lane who had left the Village some time back passed away in February.

Last but not least **Janice** Grant Depardieu who passed away suddenly in March. Although not a member of the committee she, nonetheless, dedicated much of her time badgering our councillors so that they should take an initiative to improve our roads and pavements. Her last accomplishment was helping Debbie and the Centenary team on the organising of the celebrations. We will always be grateful to her for the work she put in trying to accomplish this. I hope her efforts will eventually be rewarded. We live in hope. Thank you Janice.

May they all Rest in Peace.

Men about the Village:

I would also like to wish David Williams speedy progress to better health, as I need him to put up the gazebos in the summer months! On a serious note we do sincerely wish him continued progress to a speedy recovery. On behalf of all villagers I thank you for all your contribution to village life throughout the year. One other stalwart of our village is Bob Wallis, I would like to thank him for his continued, without fuss, dedication to Village matters. Thank you Bob....

Planning and Conservation

I would like to thank Heritage officer Mark Price and Debbie Nyman for revamping the older version of the design guide. The new design guide, which has been on the council website since before Christmas and can be viewed this evening.

Intro to Guest Speaker: Lawrence Usherwood Principal Tree Officer, Regeneration and Growth.

Elections:

As tomorrow are Council elections I felt that I would not invite our current Councillors as I am certain that they would wish to spend their final moments as last terms councilors campaigning for re-election as I am sure their opposition would wish to do the same.

Green Village:

Before I continue, there are a number of dedicated, members of our community that I would like to thank:

Powerleague

John Evans, Dan Hulsman and Debbie continue to be at the forefront of this fight, a huge thank you to all three – “La Lutte Continue” let’s hope we get permanent and positive results than the students and workers in 68!

“Powerleague continues to be a presence in the background. Although Brent refused planning permission on the grounds of excessive noise KHS and P-L have appealed to the Inspectorate challenging Brent’s refusal. Therefore the threat is still very much present and this could go either way so you all must be vigilant and have pens poised and keyboards plugged in to write your objections to him or her as soon as the date has been announced of start of proceedings. Please write, just a short objection, even if you had written one previously to Brent. The Inspector at Bristol needs to hear your views”.

Intro to Guest Speaker: John Evans re Powerleague

Accounts:

I would like to thank Len Stockley and Ron Isaac for auditing the accounts and respectfully ask them if they could do the same next year.

Quiz Night

I would like to thank, Ron and Babs our organizing Quiz night which will take place on Saturday 16th June at Kingsbury Services Club.

Village Day

Last year’s Village Day was a very simple affair with a picnic at 12 noon and a residents’ soirée from 8pm.

This year’s Village Centenary will run over several weekends. The Centenary Committee are working hard to put on events to mark the occasion. I would like to thank Montserrat Tojeiro, Nicole Seidemann, and Frances Low for all their hard work, they all deserve a huge thank you. THANK YOU!!!!

Carol singing and Father Christmas

Carol singing on the green was well attended and all were in good voice. It was too damp for the Accordion so Naomi Whitelaw and her lovely and attentive assistant Doug Jacob, were able to just join in the singing.

The committee would like to thank Father Christmas for giving up his time and making the event very special to children of the village.

Abandoned cars:

Should you see or even suspect that a vehicle may have been abandoned; **Phone 0208937 5050**. One that was in Roe Lane for a year actually got removed last month!

Fly-tipping:

These seem to be occurring a little more frequently this year. Let's be vigilant! Moreover, should you see anyone indulging in this activity, do not approach them but should it be possible note down a number plate, vehicle type, colour etc. and either report to Council or the Police.

Wheelie bins:

Just a reminder not to leave them outside after collection days, as they are a nuisance and you could be fined.

Garden waste is collected every two weeks from April to end of October and monthly from November to end of March. You will be charged £60 for the privilege (It was £50 if you signed up before the new calendar year end of March). The fees are creeping up.

Footway Parking Exemption in Roe End (reminder)

We have now partial exemption on footway parking in the whole village: that is to say two wheels are allowed on the footway. However, it is important to note that Roe Lane and Goldsmith Lane have demarcation as to how far the two wheels are allowed on the pavement. If you park in those two roads you must park within the bricked area as if you park on the paving stones you can be issued with a ticket. In the other areas you must leave a gap wide enough for a pram to pass.

Capitol Way proposed development

Brent has now approved this development and I fear this will impact on the Village: Traffic, parking and general congestion, which is already a problem, will increase. There will come a time when we will have to confront the unwanted CPZ and have full discussions.

Proposed improvements to the Children's Playground in RGP

The committee has been in discussion with our three councillors about improving the facilities in the playground and the surrounding area. This is still on going and hopefully we can start seeing improvements by the summer.

Planning Matters

Planning is always a sensitive issue in the village and the newly revised Design Guide, which was originally compiled to maintain the village, as a conservation area is the main reference when making applications for extensions or modifications to a property. It has been under the guidance of Mark Price, Heritage Officer, at Brent Council.

Our planning sub-committee, led by Martyn has had to work hard taking on monitoring duties that cannot be completely fulfilled by the overstretched Brent Council planning department who in the past year have undergone drastic cuts in their staffing.

Should any resident disagree with the recommendation contained within the guide, there is a procedure that they can adopt which is, in the first instance, planning and if not satisfied the Planning Inspectorate.

Just a short quote from the design guide: *"Changes over the years invariably affected the external appearance of properties and as a consequence the general street scene. Nevertheless the*

village possessed a character worthy of retention and in 1968 it was designated as the first Conservation Area in the Borough. Conservation Areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which is desirable to preserve or enhance. This designation allows the Council to exercise control over the demolition of buildings and loss of trees."

Open House Weekend Tours –September 2017

We are sincerely grateful to Peter Cormack and David Williams who took a group of interested visitors through the Village last September. A popular event which keeps Roe Green Village on the map.

Brick Lane Music Hall

A small number of residents took advantage of a trip to Brick Lane. This year's show was Aladdin with lunch thrown in! Thank you, again, Debbie for organising these events.

Committee

Unfortunately, due to commitments a number of committee members found it difficult to attend meetings. We are certainly looking for residents of the village to join this vibrant, forward-looking and caring committee. Please contact us directly or via e-mail to join us.

We saw two valuable members leave in June last year, Mary Lingwood and Elisa Faggio. Although Elisa stood down she has continued to work in the background, supporting the Committee and the village.

Mary had to leave the village due to poor health and is now living with her daughter in Leighton Buzzard. Mary was a committee member for a number of years best known for her apple pies. Her dedication and commitment to village matters was invaluable and the committee would like to thank her whole-heartedly.

Their contribution to the committee over the years has been very much appreciated.

I will now pass the baton to Debbie who will give a brief update on the Centenary celebrations:

DEBBIE NYMAN
VICE CHAIR

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS UPDATE

As I was writing "Tea & Memories" I realised Roe Green Village was at a milestone. It's the village centenary.

With encouragement initially from, the late Janice Depardieu-Grant, who offered to help me organise it, the team grew to include Montserrat Tojeiro, Frances Low and Nicole Seidemann. We decided on 4 individual events and a Writing Competition.

Frances is heading up the writing competition and is looking for a page of memories in a creative way!

And the 4 events are: a Funwalk, a dog show, a quiz and an extraordinary village day.

None of this will be happening without the tremendous support of Montserrat, Frances and Nicole. APPLAUSE.

As you may know the centenary started with the logo competition; winning entry was designed by Peter Cormack of Roe End. It is a really striking logo and will be emblazoned on bags and T-shirts - a fitting memento of our centenary – and available to purchase from now.

Brent has partially funded the events but we are having to pay for it by using valuable time filling in numerous forms which we've never had to do before.

Unbeknown to us, Brent brought in some good old red tape and piles of forms on health and safety, etc to complete which we have been totally oblivious of for the past 40 years of village days. We previously just used our commonsense but that no longer applies!!

It all kicks off on Saturday 2nd June with **The Fun walk.**

I have to mention Winkworth estate agents because they are sponsoring this event and supporting us by way of prizes and photocopying, etc.

The Walk is being co-ordinated by Nicole. She is getting us in trim by taking training walks on a Tuesday evening, 7.15 meet on the Green. Everyone welcome.

Then we've got the Dog Show on 9th June. Dena Rondeau and Debbie Grive have bravely taken this on for the 3rd time. It is only open to residents' dogs..... and their owners!

Debbie's own dog, Rudy sadly died this year and so the event is being held in his memory.

Next, **the quiz on the 16th June.** Our quizmeisters, Babs & Ron Isaac are preparing a centenary quiz. Fish & chips afterwards.

And the main event - 30th June with all the usual great stalls.

If you would like to take a stall please speak to me, Montserrat, Frances or Nicole.

There will be a Village Bake Off which Janice had started working on.

I'm really pleased to announce that Montserrat has secured our famous celebrity judge from TV's Bake Off, Urvashi. So get baking!

(The Bake Off is also being sponsored by Winkworth – double promotion - as they are supplying the prizes)

VOLUNTEERS

We will need volunteers for 3 of the events. We also need some night security to guard the marquees 29th June and 1st July. Patrick Konig has volunteered to camp out on the Green – so would anyone like to join him?....This is actually a serious request!

It's a big event and a lot of work is going into it. We need help running stalls, setting up, and other things I can't think of at the moment!

I have left the best till last.

We have got a marvellous surprise for all on the 30th. An anonymous gesture from a resident which far surpasses anything I can add but if I tell you, I will have to eat myself!

All things being equal, the weather on our side and clearance by air traffic control on the day, this event is going to be an exciting and memorable occasion – in fact, the icing on the Bake Off cake.

Brent Council willing, it is going to be a centenary and a half and something for Roe Green Village and its inhabitants to remember for a long time.

It better be, cos I don't fancy doing this again!!

The centenary celebrations are going really well and all that is now needed is your participation.

Thank you for listening