

# East Croydon Community Organisation Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 27 July 2021 7.30pm

On Zoom

## MINUTES

<b>Attendance</b>	
	<p>Chair: Jason Hinton</p> <p>Members: Tomas Howard-Jones, Rod Davies, Sasha Konechni, Tony Skrzypczyk, Esther Sutton, Angela Vanegas, Christine Thomas, Sally Anne Cook, Anne Keeley, Tunde Hinton, Councillor Jerry Fitzpatrick, Fiona Crowe, Carl Rich, Brendan O'Connor, Dorine Cheung, Christopher Healey, Ann Douthwaite, Felicita Gimenez, Marie-Louise Rabe, Sandra Wright</p> <p>Non-members: Councillor Sean Fitzsimons, Anne Bridge (Canning &amp; Clyde Residents' Association), James Dixon, Rachel Davis, Russell Clark</p> <p>Apologies: Councillor Patricia Hay-Justice, Dawn Edwards</p>
<b>1</b>	<b>Actions from AGM 2017</b>
	<p>No AGM was held in 2020 due to the pandemic. Instead notes were published on the ECCO website on 1 July <a href="https://eastcroydon.org.uk/2020/07/01/east-croydon-community-organisation-will-not-be-holding-an-agm-in-2020/">https://eastcroydon.org.uk/2020/07/01/east-croydon-community-organisation-will-not-be-holding-an-agm-in-2020/</a></p> <p>2020-21 activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Croydon Council funded the identification of over 300 local trees. This information has been made available on an app developed by TiCL, based in One Croydon. For further information, go to <a href="https://eastcroydon.org.uk/tree-trail/">https://eastcroydon.org.uk/tree-trail/</a></li><li>• ECCO submitted information about the origin of its street names to the London Street Guide project <a href="https://eastcroydon.org.uk/the-history-of-east-croydon/">https://eastcroydon.org.uk/the-history-of-east-croydon/</a></li></ul>

<b>2</b>	<b>Steering group members</b>	
	<p>The following people were proposed and seconded by the deadline of 20 July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sally Anne Cook</li> <li>• Fiona Crowe</li> <li>• Rod Davies</li> <li>• Dawn Edwards</li> <li>• Jason Hinton</li> <li>• Tomas Howard-Jones</li> <li>• Sasha Konechni</li> <li>• Tony Skrzypczyk</li> <li>• Esther Sutton</li> <li>• Christine Thomas</li> <li>• Angela Vanegas</li> </ul> <p>Andy Bravery has left the steering group and is thanked for all he has done for ECCO.</p> <p>As there is a vacancy, members can put themselves forward to be co-opted to attend steering group meetings, between now and the next AGM, by sending an email to <a href="mailto:mail@eastcroydon.org.uk">mail@eastcroydon.org.uk</a> .</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Accounts</b>	
	<p>The accounts from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 were noted.</p> <p>The current balance is £165.71, likely to be sufficient to cover our public liability insurance for 2021-22. Fundraising will be required if activities are planned that are likely to occur costs.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Presentations</b>	
	<p>Report from the Residents' Associations meeting with the Croydon Council Planning Management team, 20 July 2021.</p> <p>Sally Ann Cook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the discussion was about the amount of building taking place in Croydon at present and being planned for the future.</li> <li>• Croydon Council said that they were unable to reduce much this as it was a requirement of the London Plan.</li> </ul> <p>The implications of the new developments in the East Croydon area</p> <p>Rod Davies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 900 "dwelling units" are either under construction or have received planning permission in the East Croydon area, on top of those in the Menta Redrow development on Cherry Orchard Road</li> <li>• Developments include Cherryfields (Cherry Orchard Road), L&amp;Q &amp; Citylink (Addiscombe Road) and Pocket Living (Addiscombe Grove)</li> <li>• The council will receive a much higher income per hectare from this area than most other parts of the borough.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• However, the area will gain little. There will be increased pressure on local medical and educational facilities. The public realm, particularly in the Cherry Orchard Road/Lower Addiscombe Road, continues to degrade and experience high levels of pollution.</li> </ul> <p>An overview of crime in the area Tomas Howard-Jones, co-chair of the local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During lockdown the majority of crime reported locally came into the categories of anti-social behaviour, violence and sexual assault (the latter two largely domestic). There were also two murders on Alpha Road, which greatly affected the residents there, with concerns about the rehabilitation of drug users in the area.</li> <li>• Since lockdown has been lifted, there has been an increase in burglary and vehicle crime.</li> <li>• Complaints about people using e-scooters (and bicycles) on the pavements</li> <li>• The police are currently under staffed. Our area has one SNT Officer (Angela Chalmers) and one PC, when there should be two of both.</li> </ul>	
<b>5 Discussion</b>		
	<p>Rod Davies: someone was recently apprehended breaking into a car on Lebanon Road. It was over 30 minutes before the police arrived, and then it was the transport police, due to officer being deployed on a major incident elsewhere.</p> <p>Russell Clark: he has been talking to the company behind the Citylink development, as have Councillors Fitzpatrick and Fitzsimons, because the size of the dwelling units are unacceptably small. He is surprised that more local people are not doing so.</p> <p>Councillor Sean Fitzsimons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Croydon police have recently issued notices to more than 300 people for riding their e-scooters on pavements, warning them that they may be confiscated if they are found doing so again.</li> <li>• Many roads in the area have problems with people dealing drugs. Some of the permitted developments have been targeted at people with social issues who are also targeted by drug dealers.</li> <li>• There have been some improvements with new buildings at Ark Oval School. Just to the north of the ECCO area, Ark Blake Secondary School has opened and Dartnall Park Amenity area is being developed with the help of L&amp;Q. Menta have agreed to compete the bridge over the railway lines at East Croydon station in 2023.</li> </ul> <p>Esther Sutton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police visiting The Oval Tavern in a private capacity had also spoken of being short staffed.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Councillor Jerry Fitzpatrick</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More attention is paid to issues voiced collectively</li> <li>• Most of the people who attend meetings like these are unlikely to be renting their homes</li> </ul> <p>Rod Davies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street parties are a good way to help people feel part of the community.</li> </ul> <p>Tomas Howard-Jones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps a local business could be persuaded to host an air quality monitor.</li> </ul>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
	<p>The East Croydon History Walk will take place on Saturday, 4 September as part of the Open House festival. It will start at 1.30pm at The Cricketers on Addiscombe Road.</p>	<p>Tony Skrzypczyk, Angela Vanegas</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Next steps</b>	
	<p>Suggestions will be discussed at the next steering group meeting</p> <p>Minutes will be posted on the website</p>	<p>ECCO steering group</p>