

Minutes from 80th Annual General Meeting
Held at Merchant Taylors' School
Tuesday 29th April 2025

Present: Sarah Starr - Chairman
Richard Midgeley - Treasurer
Danny Garvey
Wendy Hussain
Pamela Leigh
Debbie Bello
Carolyn Linton
Fearghal Hayes
Anouska Mutreja
Jeff Craft

Apologies: Joan & David Roy, Tony Brayford, Hans Patel

Attendance: 20 for AGM and an additional 10 for talk

1) The Minutes of the last AGM held on 9th November 2021 were approved.

2) **Report of the Committee:**

Sarah Starr, our Chair gave her report:

We have been busy working, restructuring and expanding our resources: a brand new website and 13 new WhatsApp community groups including:

MP General, Events, Knit & Natter, Walk & Talk, Recommended Traders, Sell, Borrow & Gift, Gardening, Eco Friendly, BiteSize Updates, Wildlife, Neighbourhood Watch, Book Club and lastly Bollywood Karaoke.

These groups were started in lockdown and we now have over 400 residents who have joined various groups creating a positive & cohesive neighbourhood feel in Moor Park.

We are also active in TRJA (Three Rivers Joint Residents Association) who work to protect our Green belt. We have a good relationship with our local councillors and with BCC and have worked with them on the Neighbourhood plan and we urge you to vote in Thursday's election.

Our relationship with MP58 is very co-operative. They concentrate on the infrastructure, traffic management and other related issues.

Our gardening group in agreement with MP58 are planning to adopt a number of verges in MP to plant shrubs, flowers and to enhance the Estate's appearance.

We also cooperate with other local Residents Associations, including Eastbury and the Withey Beds.

We support Neighbourhood Watch - now known as Herts Connected.

We also host regular Residents Association events:

Twice a year a Litter Pick, the Xmas Fair (which we previously co-hosted with ERA) but held our own this year which was very successful despite Storm Duragh. We raised nearly £2000 for the Lynda Jackson (now Macmillan Charity). We also organised the annual Carol Service and Santa's Dash.

We are excited to tell you about our upcoming second annual Golf Day on Tuesday June 10th - this year at Moor Park Golf Club and also our first Midsummer Picnic on Sunday 22nd June at Merchant Taylors.

We plan to update the rules of MPRA which haven't been updated for 80 years. We will consult members to present them at next year's AGM.

3) Accounts

The Treasurer, Richard Midgeley presented the past 4 years accounts since 2021, these were passed.

For the past 2 years, apart from the Carol Service, we have not held many fundraising events and our sole source of subscriptions has been an annual £10 subscription fee for MPRA members. However, in 2019, we had 140 members and this has now declined to only 90 members. We shall review ways of increasing membership.

Highlights from the Accounts included:

Litter Pick which started in 2024 with a £500 donation. Armbands (neon with lights) received £500 which we sold at MP station and via the MP office. Armband sales will restart in October due to seasonal demand (to raise visibility walking on the Estate). Sale proceeds have been reinvested.

2024 Xmas Fair, BCC gave £5000, MP58 £500, £500 Batchworth and Robsons £500. We raised £1805 plus MVCC direct donations. Total expenditure was £3,987. Unused grant of £2,094 was refunded to BCC.

4) Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2025/26:

As so much time has elapsed, all members standing need to be re-elected.

The following officers, having been proposed were duly elected: Sarah Starr, Chairman, Wendy Hussain, Co-Chairman, Richard Midgely, Treasurer.

The following have been nominated by the Committee and have agreed to stand: Debbie Bello, Jeff Craft, Danny Garvey, Ferghal Hayes, Pamela Leigh, Carolyn Linton, Anouska Mutreja and Hand Patel.

Sarah thanked her committee for all their hard work.

5) The Committee was authorised to appoint an Auditor.

6) AOB - our invited guest Simon Everson, headmaster of Merchant Taylors gave a short talk on the school. Sarah thanked him and MTS for hosting us with their generous hospitality.