

Copthorne Residents' Society

Executive committee report for 2022

The Executive Committee

1. Your executive committee was (with roles): Joe Watts (Chair); Fred Cleary (Treasurer); Sally Williams (Secretary); Linda Coles (website); Jim Forder; Gordon Ross (wine evenings) Findlay Simpson (IT); Hasmita Bheda (open gardens), Kirsti Eraneva Dibb (open gardens), Mike & Melisa Collins. During the year Findlay Simpson moved from the road and left the Committee. The Committee is very grateful for the service Findlay provided for the Society including more than one period on the Committee. At the end of this year, and in accordance with the Rules of the Society, 3 members (Joe, Sally and Fred) will stand down. All three intend to stand for re-election. There will be at least one vacancy on the Committee for 2023.
2. The Committee met five times during the year.

The Trustees

3. The society has three Trustees: John Rhodes, Andrew Gallagher and Mark Clare. The committee is grateful for their continued support.

Road Matters

4. The road is generally in good condition. The lines on the road were repainted in January 2019 and may need repainting during 2023.
5. We are grateful to Andrew Gallagher for arranging with Three Rivers to clear the undergrowth and drain on the concrete section of Chess Vale Rise.
6. The gullies and drains were last cleared in February 2018 and may need clearing during 2023. It is important that residents keep mud and grass cuttings away from the drain covers.
7. In May 2022, the bollards were temporarily opened to allow local traffic to avoid the road works on Scots Hill. The Committee agreed to close the bollards for safety reasons before the road works were complete. This was due to heavy and speeding traffic using Copthorne Road that we believe was the result of a posting on social media.
8. Snow and salt: the salt bins have been maintained. There has been no need to spread salt during the year.
9. We have continued, with the help of the Trustees, to pursue the ownership of the section of road from the boundary between numbers 50 and 52 Copthorne Road and the junction with the Green. This section is neither owned by the Society, Three Rivers District Council (TRDC) nor Herts County Council. We continue to seek to have that section of road repaired.

Planning Applications

10. The committee have posted a draft "Considerate Building Policy" on the website for residents' consideration with the intention of agreeing a final version of the document at the 2023 AGM.
11. The committee will continue to pursue the agreed policy of upholding covenants should such matters arise.

Subscriptions and Road Fund

12. The subscription was maintained at £65.00 for 2022. To-date 87 houses have paid their subscription for 2022.
13. If you have not yet paid, we can accept subscription payments by direct credit to the Society's bank account (Barclays Bank, Rickmansworth branch Sort Code 20-91-79; Account number 10134171). Please make sure that you provide a reference that will allow the committee to identify your payment as follows: House Number/Name, Road reference, Surname. For road reference can you use the following abbreviations; CR - Copthorne Road; CC - Copthorne Close; CVR - Chess Vale Rise; U – Uplands; and MC - Millthorne Close
14. Please email us at Copthorneroadresidents@gmail.com once your payment has been made so that we can ensure it is in the society bank account. We will also use your email to keep in touch – please provide if we don't have it. Alternatively, please drop a clearly marked cheque into 55 Copthorne Road (although the nearest bank to accept cheques is now in Watford).
15. The subscription for 2023 will be set at the AGM – the recommendation of the Executive Committee is that the rate increases to £75 (the subscription has stayed at £65 for 3 years). We will send out invoices for the 2023 subscriptions as in earlier years.

Social Events

16. The Society held a **Jubilee Street Party** to celebrate the platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. The Party was planned by Kirsti and Hasmita from the Committee and supported by an invaluable team of volunteers. The event finally happened on Saturday 4th June with the last-minute change avoiding the predicted bad weather on the Sunday. Approximately 80 to 100 residents and their families enjoyed the party in Milthorne Close and the Committee and volunteers received very positive feedback from many of the party-goers. The AGM will consider what we might consider doing to mark the coronation of King Charles on the weekend of 6th May 2023.
17. Following the success of Open Gardens in 2021, we are considering Open Gardens again on 21 May 2023. A Request for volunteer gardens has been sent.
18. The Society held two **Wine and Cheese Appreciation Evenings**; in May and in October 2022, both of which were a great success. The next wine appreciation evening is planned for **21 October 2023** – a date for the diary.

Website

19. Members can contact the committee through the email: copthorneroadresidents@gmail.com.
20. The Committee has continued to update the website for the Society through the year. Suggestions for further improvements are welcome.

Neighbourhood Watch

21. Many thanks to Richard Saunders for his continued vigilance and reports.

Commented [MB1]: Is it possible to add a bullet for those whom we do not have email addresses, please provide?