



Churchfield Community Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

CHAIR'S OVERVIEW

Happy New Year to all our members!

It's been a busier year than the past couple of years and we have been able to offer some social activities for the first time, including quizzes and the summer garden party. It's been so nice to see people in the flesh again!

I would of course like to thank all those who serve on the Executive. We have continued to meet via Zoom rather than face to face as it's so convenient. One good thing to come out of lockdowns!

We still have a couple of vacancies on the committee and would welcome anyone who wants to get more involved. Susan Hauser is stepping down and we thank her for her contributions. We would love to have some fresh faces on the Exec! If you are interested in finding out more or observing our Exec committee, please contact me, Chris Hurley on hello@churchfield.org

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 173 households and businesses as members, which is slightly down from last year. Our email list has 154 members. You can request to join it via <https://mailmanlists.uk/mailman/listinfo/cca> or send an email to membership@churchfield.org and ask to join.

Our Facebook page now has more than 300 users! So, if you are on Facebook but not yet a member please join! You can do so online here: <https://www.churchfield.org/how-to-join>

CONSULTATIONS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Campaigns and activities

Central Acton Police Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel quarterly meetings.

There have been meetings of the Ward panel in 2022 where the 3 'Priorities' agreed upon were 1 from the police and 2 from the community. From the police was Violence and Public Safety. From the community, Goldsmith Ave/Perryn Rd Rail Footbridge and theft from motor vehicles. All these items have continued to be discussed and updated. I can confirm that the S.N.T. have been patrolling the bridge and that some arrests have been made re ASB activities. Concern about the condition of the fencing surrounding the bridge has been raised and the accumulated fly tipping material under the steps. A 'design out crime' team have made an assessment of the bridge and the report is still awaited.

In April 2022 a team from GEL/Network Rail did clear the area of rubbish within the fencing. We are still raising the issue of poor maintenance of the steps and pushing for the installation of a cycle 'Tube' to assist cyclists who currently have to carry bikes over the bridge.

With effect from Jan 2023 the Acton Central SNT Ward panel will cease to exist and the area now falls in line with the revised ward boundaries as introduced in the local government elections of May 2022 of North Acton, South Acton, and East Acton (See Newsletter 53 Winter 2021 article available on CCA website). This now means that Churchfield Road falls within the South Acton Ward along with the southern section of Poets' Corner, while north of Woodhurst Rd joins North Acton ward, and Goldsmith Ave/St Dunstons and surrounding roads have moved to East Acton Ward. Look out for the SNT Ward Surveys that are published via Police Owl and social media/street WhatsApp groups prior to quarterly meetings or contact the police directly. We now need 3 CCA representatives to attend the 3 SNT Ward panel meetings that previously covered Acton Central Ward.

Re-Imagining The Mount. This project to improve the market area outside Morrisons/ St Mary's Church organised by Mutual Gain started with a World Cafe public consultation in 2021 and a budget of £28k. This eventually morphed into '**Acton Together**' project in the autumn of 2022 with a voting competition held at Ark Acton High School to award the funding to 15 organisations that pitched. The following organisations were successful:

Talking and Exploring received £1,800 to deliver local walking tours

Living Rooms Acton received £3000 to pay for additional youth workers

Sev Necati Training received £10,000 to deliver two eight-week Women & Young Peoples Safety Solutions © courses

Bollo Brook Youth Centre received £9,780 to work with a group of 14 local young women, aged 13-20, on creating a script for a film that reflects their experiences.

Debbie Allen - Hearts in The Community received £3,700 to facilitate a multi-cultural reading group.

There is now a new project 'Our High Street' launched Jan 2023 to address the issues re The Mount and Churchfield Rd and its survival.

This to be considered alongside the current consultation of the **Ealing Local Plan for Acton** that ends on 8th February 2023. We urge members to look at the plan for Acton and feed in comments by the due date.

Planning applications – The primary concern remains Friary Park (Verdean) and the additional towers. The CCA has made representation to LBE on this amongst others.

Post Office – despite the efforts of local campaigners and our MP, a meeting in the summer with representatives from the Post Office made clear there was little short term prospect of a PO in central Acton. There is however a new Banking Hub planned for central Acton, part of a trial of these facilities across the country and while there have been delays in obtaining premises, we have been told it should open in a few months.

Stall - we have had a stall at three consecutive months (Oct, Nov, Dec) at the Reuse and Recycle Market on the first Saturday of the month at the Mount. Our first two stalls advertised the group and our activities, including the reusable bag that new members can have. At the December market we ran a recycle your books stall which members very generously contributed to. This was inspired by the bookcase at Acton Central station, set up by the CCA, where books can be left for others to take, read, and return.

Old Library to cinema project

The CCA has been supportive of this project since it was first mooted and last year, we made another donation towards their fund raising for a second screen which is now being built. Preparations are also in place for the bi-centennial celebrations of Passmore Edwards birth in 2023.

Licensing of Alcohol and late-night food

We continued this year to monitor alcohol and late-night food licence applications in the town centre, making representations to the Council, when appropriate, to encourage responsible licensing practices and reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour (ASB). Monitoring is now harder as Maureen Colledge is no longer emailed with new applications for licenses but has to monitor them via the Council website. Fortunately, there has been less licensing activity in the area over the last year. In making licensing representations we liaise with Ann Brennan of the Mill Hill Park Residents Association (MHPRA) who monitors applications and makes representations for the MHPRA and the licensing officer in the Metropolitan Police.

Since last November, three representations have been made. One in March concerned a new restaurant opening in Churchfield Road where we were able to reach agreement over reduced late-night hours and suitable conditions. The second in April concerned a café in the High Street, again we were able to agree reduced hours and conditions. The third representation, which went to a hearing, concerned a recently opened restaurant in the High Street which had taken over a licence and wanted to vary it. We and MHPRA made representations seeking to reduce the later hours but were unsuccessful, although a condition was applied about handling waste as there had been problems with this at the premises during the summer.

Acton Central Station Noticeboard

During the year we maintained the public noticeboard just outside Acton Central Station advertising local classes, concerts, films, our social events and other activities. A phone number is given on the board for community groups or members wanting to have posters put up.

Social Activities:

CCA social events are open to CCA members and their friends, and also to anyone thinking of joining the CCA. The aim is to offer opportunities to meet up socially with others who live and/or work in our neighbourhood. With Covid easing, we were able to return to in person activities and held a quiz at L'Oriental in May, a garden party at lovely garden in Cumberland Park in July and our Xmas Social and Quiz at L'Oriental in December. Around 30 people attended each event.

Executive Committee

We met 5 times on Zoom during the year, in Feb, April, June, Sept & Nov.

Newsletter

We produced and distributed 3 hard copy Newsletters during the year: Winter 2021 (in December 2021), Summer 2022 (in June 2022) and Winter 2022 (in December 2022). The last two were in colour! Our thanks go to our continuing editor, Linda Taylor, who maintains a high standard of design and content for us. Thanks also to all contributors to the Newsletter.

Website

The CCA website at <https://churchfield.org> has had a few updates over the year. - the most significant being the addition of copies of the newsletter from 2010 up to the end of 2021.

The Directory section of the site has been updated with links and other information refreshed. If you have other local organisations that you think should be there or corrections to be made, then send an email using the link on that page <https://churchfield.org/directory>

The Executive 2021/22

Chair Chris Hurley
Secretary Maureen Colledge
Treasurer Matthew Stower
Membership, planning and website: Paul Webster
Campaigns David Wootton
Member: Susan Hauser

Compiled by CCA Chair Chris Hurley – thanks to Exec members for your contributions