

Round Hill Society Annual General Meeting

22nd November 2023, Richmond House



Agenda and attendees

Agenda

- Introduction
- Round Hill business
- Crime & safety
- Nature & environment
- AOB

Attendees

- Round Hill Society (RHS) Committee (7)
- Friends of RHS (20 attendees)
- Round Hill ward councillors: Raphael Hill & Pete West
- Round Hill PCSO: Ben Drewswood



Round Hill business

- Committee re-elected by the Friends of RHS
 - Chair: Eva Wendler
 - Secretary: Stefania Rosso
 - Treasurer: Gary Jenkins
 - *The RH Reporter* Editor: Julia Valentine
 - Events: Laura-Kate Roe
 - Police Liaison: Christopher Paul
 - Special Projects: Dominic Furlong
- [About the RHS Committee](#)
- [RHS Committee constitution](#)

Treasurer's report

- At the start of 2023 we had £6500
- We currently have £2971.36 unallocated budget remaining
- Spend items:
 - £2500: greening project
 - £900: miscellaneous, including slow down signs, prizes, events, poo stencils
- Received:
 - Money for defibrillators - we have £134 remaining from this budget
 - £1000 for pocket park from council
- Round Hill Reporter made a loss of £93



Crime & safety

Jo Good & Ben Drewswood are our PCSOs

Reported crimes

- At the start of 2023, a lack of reporting made it appear there was no crime in Round Hill (RH)
- In October plant pots were reported stolen and cars were broken into - otherwise, RH is a safe area
- All crime, no matter how small, should be reported to the police when witnessed - either via 111 or the police website

Road safety issues

- Ben can offer us training on how to use speed guns
- Raphael & Pete to follow up on better road signage around giratory
- The council is reviewing Princes Crescent & Wakefield Road traffic to make recommendations on how to reduce speeding

Drug problems

- We should ask Katy Bourne, PCC, to re-open drug room to reduce people using in RH
- We should report every time we see drug dealing or usage to the police so they can send their plain clothes operation teams to hot spots



Street Play events & councillor updates

Street Play events

- Street Plays have been moved to Richmond Road, which is easier to close off and safer
- Three successful events held this year
- Aiming for three next year in conjunction with plant sale and maker's market
- Biggest challenge is getting marshalls (attend in a high vis jacket for half an hour), who can protect against any rogue cars
- Information about the events is shared in *The Reporter*, Facebook and the public notice boards on Ashdown and Princes Roads

Councillor updates

- One of the advantages to having RH as a ward now is that we will receive a Community Infrastructure Levy if there's development in the ward
- Working with City Clean management to modernise the service - there is a report we can access online
- Food waste collection has been pushed back on for years as it is expensive - but the Labour administration included it in their manifesto so Raphael & Pete are pushing them to commit



Nature & local facilities

Pocket park

- This has been approved and we have funding but we need additional funds and volunteers to get this up and running

Toad patrol

- Need more volunteers to monitor amphibian numbers on the Cat's Creep in spring (involves going out between 8 - 10pm to count for 20 mins) - email [Paolo Oprandi](#) to get join effort
- Paolo Oprandi shares the information with a national database

Defibrillators

- These have been installed and a local paramedic has offered training (date TBC)

Good Gym

- Removed a lot of graffiti in the area and tidied up Cat's Creep
- Supplied tools for cleaning / clearing
- Raphael can share information on getting more funding for tools and request an audit of telephone boxes



Conservation area & heritage

Conservation area

- Michael Doyle & Annie McCabe presented information on reviewing the plan for the Round Hill conservation area (it's 50 years out of date!)
- Requesting stories from local residents and any old photos
- Building history of individual streets
- Contact Annie for involvement - ideally she would love to have a resident from each street to shape the contents gathered and collate available historical evidence

Blue plaques

- Rob Stephenson voted in to remain as representative on the blue plaque panel
- A new blue plaque will be unveiled on 30th November to commemorate the people who lost their lives in the second World War due to a bomb in Lewes Road



AOB & thank yous

AOB

- Heidi Green has spare spaces for this year's window advent calendar (contact Dominic for more information)
- Councillors recommended residents look into new initiative led by [BHESCo](#): carbon neutral communities in Sussex
- A resident inquired if there had been any hedgehog sightings and interest was raised to allow free movement between gardens (please email [RHS committee](#) if you want to lead this)
- Round Hill ward will donate a Christmas tree via the Wood Store to Change Grow Live, Richmond House. The RHS will also donate a voucher for letting us use their premises for the AGM

Thank you to:

- Ted Power and David Guest for maintaining the Round Hill website
- Poo stencil support from Faye and Ciara (who have offered to join more rounds)
- Advertisers of the reporter and the dedicated delivery team
- Good gym with their efforts to clean, tidy and paint in our area
- Change Grow Live manager Sasha Deighton, for letting us use Richmond House for the AGM every year



Stay in touch!

Contact the RHS Committee

- Email us at roundhillsociety@gmail.com
- Join [Jane's Facebook Community Noticeboard](#) to follow our updates
- [Email us](#) to join the RHS_Friends mailing list to stay up-to-date with the latest news

