

# Camden Residents' Association

## Newsletter November 2017

**An invitation to Camden Residents' Association Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm Thursday 23 November 2017 in the Methodist Church (east end Camden Rd opposite the health centre)**

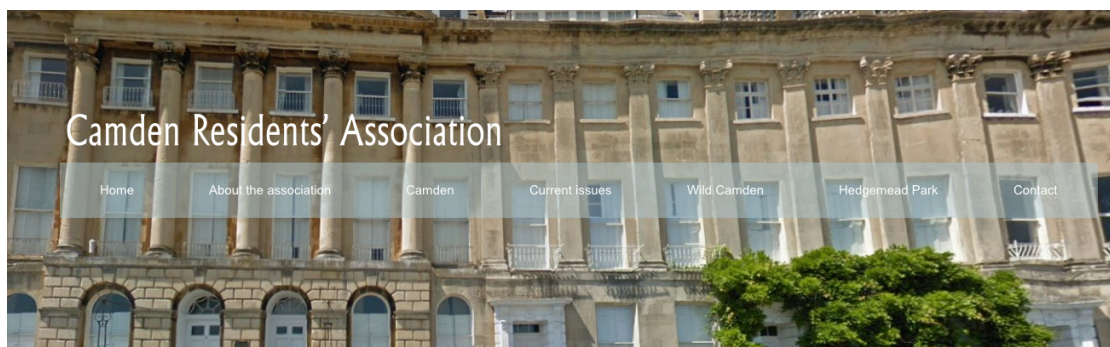
Agenda: 1. Welcome and apologies 2. Minutes of the last AGM, 15 Nov 2016  
3. Chairman's report and presentation of CRA transport proposal followed by discussion  
4. Treasurer's report 5. Wild Camden update 6. Election of chairman/woman for 2017/18  
7. Election of committee for 2017/18 8. Address from Wera Hobhouse MP 9. Any other business notified in advance



The area in front of Camden Crescent, known as 'Wild Camden' on account principally of the wildflower meadow that was planted there a few years ago, is certainly living up to its name. Less formal than our parks and gardens, it is a haven for wildlife and a sanctuary from the city bustle, but it does have a habit of getting slightly out of hand. We have arranged with the Council (who own the land) to cut back the meadow twice a year, followed by a group of local volunteers who clear the arisings and tidy up. We now feel that the time has come to ramp it up a notch, so we are proposing to launch the **Camden Gardening Club** next spring. We are hoping to meet once a month to work on whichever bit of overgrown land needs our attention. If you would like to get involved, please email [wildcamden@gmail.com](mailto:wildcamden@gmail.com) or contact the residents' association directly and we will add you to our database of volunteers.

Recent activity seen in Wild Camden is related to managing the badger setts in preparation for the refurbishment of the entire viaduct structure that supports the road in front of Camden Crescent. Non-urgent work to the structure has been required for some time, so it's good news that the work is planned to begin early in the next financial year.

## Website changes



In the past few months, the residents' association has been developing a new website ([camdenresidentsbath.co.uk](http://camdenresidentsbath.co.uk)). Feedback is welcome, so please email Julie Platt ([mail@julieplatt.co.uk](mailto:mail@julieplatt.co.uk)) or Janet Anderson ([janetandtonyanderson@talktalk.net](mailto:janetandtonyanderson@talktalk.net)) if you have any comments or would like to post anything on the site.

## New recycling arrangements: bin it or bag it

Despite a great deal of opposition throughout the city, from 6 November B&NES will be pressing ahead with its plan to collect non-recyclable waste **fortnightly** rather than weekly. (Weekly collections will continue to be made from Camden Crescent.)

All households will have been supplied with a wheelie bin or a gullproof bag in which to place their non-recyclable rubbish for collection. (Please make sure that rubbish is not placed directly into the bins or gullproof bags: black plastic bags should still be used **inside** the bins/gullproof bags). The bags are intended to be folded up and stored in between collections, not left outside on railings, so if any households wish to change a large gullproof bag (140 litres) for a smaller one (70 litres) they should contact the council and ask to review the decision. Unfortunately it appears that it will not be possible to switch a bag for a bin or vice versa. Phone 01225 394041 or email [waste\\_cleansing@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:waste_cleansing@bathnes.gov.uk) with any enquiries.

We have been told that in narrow sections of Camden Road and elsewhere, bins or bags will be collected from front gardens to avoid the problem of bins blocking the pavement, but residents must make sure that the bins are visible, ie by leaving their garden gates open so that bins or bags can be seen clearly from the street.

**Please put all food waste in the lockable caddies, not in the wheelie bins or gullproof bags. After two weeks it will be putrid and full of maggots in warm weather.**

As ever, complaints about littering or spilled rubbish should be made via council connect ([councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk); 01225 394041).



**The Camden snowwarden team are once again preparing to spread salt on pavements should ice or snow arrive this winter. It would be a great help if residents could shovel snow from pavements against the wall or into the gutters.**

## Camden traffic report takes shape



At the 2016 AGM there was a long discussion about the traffic problems that beset Camden, in particular at peak times in the morning and late afternoon. A number of people expressed interest in being involved in finding some possible solutions, and we have put together a database of around 30 local people, who have given up their time to attend meetings, send detailed comments and share their ideas over the past year. If you would like your name to be added to the list to be kept informed, please talk to us at the AGM.

It has taken some time to pull everything together into a proposal everyone can see and comment on, but we are nearly there. We intend to post the completed document on the website ([www.camdenresidentsbath.co.uk](http://www.camdenresidentsbath.co.uk)) and a hard copy will be available at the AGM on 23 November. The report covers:

- improving safety on our roads and pavements
- improving signage of the 20mph speed limit
- monitoring and tackling air pollution
- reducing rat-running
- protecting parked cars from being damaged by passing traffic

After discussion of the report at the AGM there will be a short period of consultation with residents to enable the plan to be fine-tuned before we formally present it to the Council by the end of the year.

## Bath Air Quality Plan consultation

B&NES Council is carrying out a major consultation on future air quality in Bath. This is a very important issue for Camden and everyone is asked to contribute their views. The survey is short, easy to do and accessible. The survey and the draft report produced by the Council are available on the net by searching for Bath Air Quality Action Plan – consultation. **The closing date for responses is Sunday 26 November.**

Finally, you may have noticed cameras on Camden Road. These are monitoring traffic flows and will inform the Council's final plans.

## Community conservation: have your say

What matters most about your neighbourhood? What's special or problematic about the buildings and streets where you live? And where can improvements be made? As part of a review of the city-wide Bath Conservation Area Character Appraisal and with help from volunteers, Bath Preservation Trust will be leading on a detailed character assessment of the Lower Lansdown and Camden Sub-Area and asking residents to help identify the issues and opportunities within this neighbourhood. The project will seek to engage all residents on matters affecting their neighbourhood, and the wider community who have an interest in this part of the city.

**BPT is calling for residents in the Lower Lansdown and Camden area to undertake a rapid assessment or survey of their neighbourhood or street.** Surveys can be downloaded from the BPT website: [www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk](http://www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk). You can also:

- tell us a story about your neighbourhood, building or street. Do you have an image or photograph to illustrate it? It can be anything relating to the architecture, influential people, change, past events or building uses;
- list your 'preferences and priorities for places' in Lower Lansdown and Camden: send us your ideas for improving the place/street or character of the area.

In 2018 the Bath Conservation Area will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and as this project progresses we will be inviting members of the community to get involved in workshops and events. To register for an upcoming workshop with Historic England, email the Conservation Officer Joanna Robinson at [jrobinson@bptrust.org.uk](mailto:jrobinson@bptrust.org.uk).

## Residents' Association Executive Committee: nominations invited

The business of the residents' association is conducted by the executive committee. Committee members hold office for one year and are available for re-election in following years. Two members of the committee and the chair are standing down this year, so we are hoping to recruit some new members. Current members would be pleased to answer any questions about what is involved. If you would like to stand for election please send your name and full contact details, also for your seconder, either by email or post, to the secretary by 20 November. It may be necessary to hold an election at the AGM if more than ten people wish to be on the committee.

## Residents' association contact details

Chairman: Richard Samuel, 15 Lower Camden Place, Camden Road (938804) Email: [richard.samuel1@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.samuel1@btinternet.com)

Secretary: Janet Anderson, 31 Prospect Place, Camden Rd, BA1 5JD (429574)

Email: [janetandtonyanderson@talktalk.net](mailto:janetandtonyanderson@talktalk.net)

Treasurer: Nigel Pollard, 6 Leopold Buildings, BA1 5NY (461842)

Email: [nigel.e.pollard@zen.co.uk](mailto:nigel.e.pollard@zen.co.uk)

You can also contact us on our website at [www.camdenresidentsbath.co.uk](http://www.camdenresidentsbath.co.uk)

**Our thanks to Andrews Estate Agents for printing this newsletter.**

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