



ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS OF CANFORD HEATH

**Welcome  
to the  
ARCH AGM  
2024**





Dear Resident,

I am very happy to welcome you to the 2024 ARCH Annual General Meeting. On behalf of the committee, I thank you for joining us today, your presence here is a testimony to your interest and support to the association.

The purpose of the AGM is to reflect on the past year and to hear about all the good things that have been achieved, as well as sharing plans for the forthcoming year before we then vote in a new committee for the forthcoming year 2024/5.

ARCH will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year – it is amazing to see how much has been achieved in that time by a whole host of volunteers.

As the organisation has evolved, it has also become apparent that the constitution needed reviewing and amending to reflect the current situation especially on equality and inclusion. We are very grateful to Steve Place, a Senior Advisor at Community Action Network (CAN) for his help in the process of ensuring the amended constitution is fit for purpose for the next phase in the history of ARCH. We will be voting on the amended constitution during the AGM so please do take a look at the copies on display in the hall.

And last, but not the least, I would like to thank all the current ARCH committee members for their ongoing support, commitment and hard work as well as thanking the many volunteers who do so much to help in many different ways at our events and meetings.

Sasha Morgan

ARCH Chair

# Annual General Meeting of Association of Residents of Canford Heath (ARCH)

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 10am-12 midday  
St Pauls Church Hall, Culliford Cres

## Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Chair's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Changes to the Constitution
6. Election of committee

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Following the business section of the AGM there will be 2 interesting and information talks

**Darcy Shay** – *Darcy currently works for the Dorset Wildlife Trust – she has created an excellent short 8-minute film entitled “A whistlestop tour of 100 years of Canford Heath History” and will follow the showing of this with a talk on the diversity of the flora and fauna found on the SSSI Heathland (ARCH Link: Darcy also finds time to be the Arch/PramaLife group “Saturday Friends” Activities Leader)*

**Tanya Bellows** – *Tanya works as a Parks Activator for the Parks Foundation and will talk about all the work she is overseeing in at Verity Park/Sherborn Cres Open Space for both people and wildlife.*

*(ARCH Link: Tanya has spoken at other ARCH events and ARCH has recently donated £1000 towards the creation of a woodland walkway in the park using CIL funds)*

## **CHAIRS REPORT** by Sasha Morgan, ARCH Chair

ARCH has a 4-point focus of **MEETINGS, EVENTS, PROJECTS AND COMMUNICATIONS.**

Throughout the year ARCH provides opportunities for residents to get together, either at our organised meetings or at one of our events. We undertake projects that are of benefit to the community and we also have a media team who work hard to ensure residents know what is happening in and around Canford Heath via a variety of different media. We are kept very busy!

### **MEETINGS**

**Residents' coffee mornings** were introduced last year as a way for residents to get together and to find out more about what is happening in our community – most meetings also include a speaker on a topical subject. The meetings are planned to run 3 times a year.

The **Canford Heath Network** was set up last year for representatives from health-based organisations, businesses and community groups to network and share information and resources – most meetings also include a speaker on a topical subject. The meetings are planned to run 3 times a year.

**Saturday Friends** is a joint initiative between ARCH and Pramacare and is a group that runs twice a month as a social get-together for older people and anyone who would otherwise be on their own on a Saturday morning.

### **EVENTS**

**Canford Heath Remembers** raised a record sum of £803 for the British Legion.

**Community Christmas Lights Switch-on** was attended by over 700 people.

ARCH was delighted that the Mayor of Poole was able to attend both events. These events were collaborations with other health organisations and involved many resident volunteers to make them the success that they were. We also ran 2 fundraising quiz nights and attended other events to showcase ARCH.

## **PROJECTS**

The **Hatch Pond Art interpretation boards replacement** is the current project. Pond. (see page 6-7 for full details)

Verity Park/Sherborne Gardens Open Space Parks Activator Tanya Bellows began her role with the Parks Foundation during 2023 to develop the Park. ARCH has developed a great link with Tanya and she has spoken at our Residents coffee morning as well as the Canford Heath Network, Saturday Friends and today she is here!

ARCH has recently donated £1000 to the park to be used for **creating a woodland walk**. This money was ringfenced from previous CIL funds specifically for work in Verity Park and so we were delighted at last to be able to put the funds to good use.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The ARCH media team work hard all year round to ensure Canford Heath residents can easily find out what's on by both online and offline communication methods. It is a real team effort to regularly update our website, 2 noticeboards, our Facebook page, as well as send out a weekly e-bulletin. We are also very grateful to the Canford Heath Link Magazine, who give us space each month, as well as St Paul's Church community magazine.

## **LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024-5**

ARCH will do more of the same! We particular love collaborating with other community groups - these partnerships amplify the impact of initiatives leading to stronger communities and shared successes. We are particularly grateful to those groups we worked with regularly last year including the Canford Heath Community Centre, Canford Heath Library, Canford Heath Townswomen's Guild, the Parks Foundation and the Canford Heath Group Practice. Collaborating with other community groups helps foster a diverse exchange of ideas, resources and skills. We are also very grateful to the knit and natter group who meet at the Pilot Pub for donating an amplified headset for ARCH to use at Saturday Friends and other meetings.

## **TREASURERS REPORT** - 13.03.2024 by Nigel Leahy, ARCH Treasurer

I volunteered to take over treasurer duties in August 2023 due to the incumbent treasurer, Bernard Corby, being unable to continue due to personal reasons.

I was able to secure 'free of charge' banking services with NatWest Bank which also provided a convenient way to update the account mandate and allow access to On-Line account monitoring. The account was set up requiring two signatures per transaction as per the constitution. There are currently four ARCH committee members listed as signatories.

Since August, the principal activities have been 'The Canford Heath Remembers' Poppy event in aid of the British Legion and the 'Christmas Lights' event.

As a result of the poppies sponsorship, ARCH was able to donate £803 to The British Legion, the full total of the amount raised, without incurring any expenditure.

The Christmas Lights event was successfully staged in December. A working fund was established by allocating £500 from the Canford Heath CIL fund. Fundraising and donations to the value of £804 were used to cover the total cost of the event which incurred a nett cost of £808.86 leaving a working balance of £495.14. It was agreed at Committee to hold the working fund in allocation for Christmas 2024.

ARCH was also able to make a significant contribution to improvement landscaping at Verity Park by passing on the Verity Park CIL fund of £1,000 to the Parks Association.

Arch retains funds for future events and has them allocated for these purposes. These include a maintenance contract for existing defibrillators as well as insurance and working funds. At this time the account balance and sub allocation of funds stands as follows:

### Balances 13 March 2024

General Funds	309.55
Cil - Canford Heath	4565.11
Cil - Defibs	356.40
Fest 2020	1980.87
Treasure Chest	0.00
Poppies 23	0.00
Christmas Events	495.14
Saturday friends	0.00
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Bal C/F	<u>7,707.07</u>

There are no outstanding creditors or payments due as of the above date.

## HATCH POND INTERPRETATION ART BOARD

The latest project being undertaken by ARCH is to renew the much-loved Hatch Pond interpretation board artwork which had been removed a few years ago due to falling into disrepair. There was some leftover CIL funding from the previous ARCH art project and this will be used to fund the Hatch Pond artwork.



The original artist of the board at Hatch Pond, who will also be creating the new artwork, was Maria Burns, who ARCH has previously commissioned to produce the artwork for the boards installed in Adastral Square and the Neighbourhood Centre. These boards show the History of Canford Heath and the Pilots, who are immortalised in many of the road names on Canford Heath.

ARCH has been collaborating with BCP Council environmental services for permission to replace, as well as gain more information about the changing environment of Hatch Pond over the last 20 years since the original board was first designed.

Cllr Sandra Moore, who is also a member of ARCH, has liaised with BCP council who have agreed to make the wooden frame that the artboard will be displayed in. She has also worked with the environmental officers responsible for the maintenance of Hatch Pond to see what changes and updates were needed for the board

Hatch pond is constantly evolving and has been since 1843 when sluices were set up across nearby water courses. This was done to provide water for the Waterloo Iron Foundry at Longfleet (where Lidl is now). Back then it was known as Waterloo Reservoir and, in 1937, the surrounding land was acquired by Marley Tiles who began extracting sand to make tiles. In the process, a series of gravel pits were created which formed the basis of Hatch Pond. By 1960 the area was clogged with

vegetation and silt and, at this point, the council designated the pond and surrounding land as a public park. Fast forward twenty years and the pond was re-designed, dredged and landscaped as a balancing pond for surface water drainage from housing development. In May 2000 Hatch Pond was designated a Local Nature Reserve which has protected the site and established the current geography and boundaries, making the location a great asset the area.

Over the last twenty years there has been a marked change in the type of birds visiting the nature reserve, possibly due to environmental and climatic changes. There have been some new arrivals such as the Cettis Warbler which skulks around in the reeds and scrubs and has a very loud distinctive song. Sadly though, there some species who no longer visit the reserve, Typical of these is the Bittern who wintered regularly at this site between 1997 and 2013 with up to 4 birds present, making it an important wintering site for the species. Unfortunately, none have been seen in the past 10 years.

With the soon to be installed updated board, local residents will be able to once again enjoy a few moments identifying the current crop of flying visitors to this much-loved nature reserve and who knows, the elusive Bittern might even make a welcome return.

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## **ADVANCE NOTICE – ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME**

**TALK ON THE HISTORY OF HATCH POND by Richard Burton**

**at the CANFORD HEATH RESIDENTS COFFEE MORNING**

**WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 at 10am in the CANFORD HEATH LIBRARY**

**All are welcome – no need to book – free event with refreshments**

Website: [www.canfordheathnetwork.org](http://www.canfordheathnetwork.org)

Email: [canfordheatharch@gmail.com](mailto:canfordheatharch@gmail.com)

Facebook: [@ARcanfordheath](https://www.facebook.com/ARcanfordheath)

Noticeboards: Neighbourhood Centre and Adastral Square