



NEWSLETTER 319 MARCH 2018

Annual General Meeting

The Society's 39th AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 19th March in the Sandringham Room at the Hilton Metropole Hotel. Steve Bax, Chief Executive of the BSi360 will talk about his work and answer questions. This will be followed by the refreshment break. The formal business of the AGM will take place at 9.00, as set out in the agenda below.

Agenda

- Minutes of the 38th AGM held on March 19th 2017
- Committee report for the year
- Treasurer's report and annual accounts
- Election of officers and committee
- Members' questions and comments

Refreshments will be provided and there will be a raffle with the usual fantastic prizes to help cover the cost of the meeting.

The Committee's Annual Report

As always, a lot has happened in the area. Thanks are due to Suzanne Hinton, who has kept everyone up to date via newsletters and the website and to Nicola Floyd who has managed our Facebook pages.

The Seafront

The security shelter that spoils the symmetry of the i360 site continues to be a disappointment. The Society wrote to Marks Barfield, the architects of the i360 and received a sympathetic but non-committal answer from Julia Barfield. We were grateful that she took the trouble to reply so soon after the death of her husband, David Marks. However, the shelter is still there.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The winter months always see a reduction in anti-social behaviour, but this year there is a little light on the horizon. Although we have lost dedicated Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), Sussex Police have now set up "hot spots" which are regularly patrolled by police officers. Our area now has several of these spots and the extra police presence seems to be effective.

Committee contacts

Over the year, the Committee has met with representatives of East Brunswick Residents Association, the Friends of Palmeira and Adelaide, Sussex Police, the i360 and above all with our hard-working and very supportive councillors, Tom Druiitt and Alex Phillips.

Planning

Planning consent was given for Russell House, formerly occupied by BUPA, to be converted into 52 flats. The developers are constantly submitting new applications for various conditions, imposed with the permission, to be amended. This is time consuming

for the City Council and confusing for neighbours. In general, the applications are to remove restrictions on use of outside balconies which overlook houses in Regency Square, Castle Mew and Russell Mews.

Unfortunately, one local family home and two small houses in the area have become Air B&B properties. At a time when accommodation is very short, it is sad to see these properties empty when not in use by tourists.

The Society is extremely keen to see properties in Clarence Square, behind the Western Road shops, developed as residential. This should not only provide much needed city centre accommodation but reduce the derelict appearance of the north part of the square. An added bonus should also be a reduction in anti-social behaviour.

Many thanks to Diana, Suzanne and Paula who have been very proactive in monitoring applications.

Social Events

This seems to be one area of the Committee's work which has not been so successful. Social events organised by the Society have either been very poorly attended or have not gone ahead because of lack of response from members. No Christmas Tree could be erected, not because funds were not available, but because the Committee simply lacked the "person-power" to erect a tall tree and fix the lights on it.

Regency Square Garden Regeneration

The Committee of the Society recently met with Nick Hibberd, the second-in-command of the City Council. Mr Hibberd agreed that monies should be made available, from the Section 106 agreement with the city Council, for the regeneration of the Regency Square gardens. To date, Mr Hibberd has not confirmed this in writing.



Motorcycles

Motorcycles parking on the lawn has been a constant nuisance, and a danger when they drive across the grass. There is no excuse for this inconsiderate behaviour now, as new motor cycle parking bays have been created on the road, but so far the new bays seem to be unused.

Our thanks to Nigel Rose who has represented residents' concerns about parking to the council.

Elections

The following are standing for re-election

Chair: Diana Dunn (Clarence Gardens)

Treasurer: Nicola Floyd (Queensbury (Mews))

Secretary: Suzanne Hinton (Kings Road)

Paula Brookes (Stone Street)

Julie Wright (Stone Street)

Further nominations are invited for the committee and all three officers. Nominations must be made in at least one week advance of the AGM. You may nominate any member of the Society or you may nominate yourself. Please contact Suzanne Hinton (s@hinton.clara.net / 01273 321794) if you wish to make a nomination.

Society Contacts

Acting Chair: Diana Dunn

Treasurer: Nicola Floyd ☎ 078 3352 7270

✉ nicola.floyd@yahoo.com

Secretary: Suzanne Hinton ☎ 01273 321794

✉ s@hinton.clara.net

website: www.regencybrighton.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/regencybrighton/>

Income & expenditure for the year ended 28 February 2018

INCOME	£(out)	£in
Subscriptions (including forward subs)		402.00
Donations		262.00
Functions and other		155.00
Interest		7.21
Total General Fund income		826.21
Regency Square Improvement Fund		0.00
Christmas Tree Fund		0.00
Bicentenary Book Fund		510.99
Total income for the year		1,337.20
EXPENDITURE		
Postage, printing, IT, etc.	70.87	
Insurance	61.88	
AGM/functions	76.93	
Other Gen Fund Expenses	40.00	
Total General Fund expenses	249.68	
Regency Square Improvement Fund	0	
Christmas Tree Fund	0	
Bicentenary Book Fund	0	
Total expenditure		(249.68)
OVERALL SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		1,087.52

Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2018

General Fund at start of year	5,212.80
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the period	576.53
General Fund at 28 February 2018	5,789.33
Regency Sq. Improvement Fund at start of year	320.49
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the period	0.00
Reg. Sq. Improvement Fund at 28 February 2018	320.49
Christmas Tree Fund at start of year	55.62
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the period	0.00
Christmas Tree fund at 28 February 2018	55.62
Bicentenary Book Fund at start of year	0.00
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the period	510.99
Bicentenary Book Fund at 28 February 2018	510.99

Total funds (liabilities) at 28 Feb 2018

Cash at bank	6,033.64
Cash in hand	642.79
Total assets	6,676.43

Treasurer's Report

Despite keeping subscription fees unchanged for another year, we have again managed to generate a small surplus in our general budget. This is mainly due to the generous additional donations from our members, and, in particular, due to a few large donations from some of our business members. The fantastic prizes donated by local businesses at the 2017 AGM for our raffle accounted for a significant portion of our annual income.

The focus over the last few years on lowering our operating costs has meant that overall day to day expenditure remains largely unchanged year on year. Many thanks to those who have helped us keep costs low by bearing out of area postal costs and receiving newsletters by email.

Our Regency Square Improvement Fund remained untouched this year as we await the release of the i360 garden regeneration money from the Council. We are well funded for the costs of further consultation on the garden regeneration as design plans take shape over the coming year.

Sadly our Christmas Tree Fund also remained untouched this year, but with the promise of assistance from the i360 in erecting the tree next Christmas it will be called into action for Christmas 2018.

Finally, we are running a much larger overall surplus than usual thanks to the generous donations received to support the publication of the Regency Square Bicentenary Book. These donations mean we will be able to part fund the book pre-publication. There is still time to make a donation and see your name listed in the book!

As always, many thanks for your subscriptions and donations, which have enabled us to carry on with the work of the RSAS over the year.