

Laleham Residents Association
Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 4th June 2025 at the Lucan Pavilion

Present

Committee – Steve Bartlett, Michelle Purnell, Mike Garrett, Ken Saunders, Rod Stamford.

Guests - Cllrs Maureen Attewell, Darren Clarke.

Apologies – John Thesiger, Roger Lynch; Nick Wood-Dow.

Membership attendees – approx. 38

1. Welcome and Introduction.

Steve welcomed members and guests and introduced himself (as Chair & Treasurer) and then the Committee: Michelle Purnell (Deputy Chairman & Trustee); Mike Garrett – Website, IT & Trustee; Rod Stamford–Secretary; John Thesiger (Membership Secretary); Ken Saunders.

Steve then outlined the Agenda for the evening stating that we would complete the AGM necessary processes and then close the Meeting to allow further discussions on all subjects and questions to our Councillors.

2. Approval of the 2024 AGM Minutes and matters arising

Rod summarised the Minutes and then asked for any matters arising – there were none. He then asked for approval of the Minutes and this was carried without any votes against.

3. Annual Review

Committee changes

Steve stated the changes - that Michelle is standing down as Deputy Chair & Trustee and John Thesiger is standing down as Membership Secretary but both are remaining as Committee Members. Steve gave thanks to both Michelle and John for their work over the years. Steve also mentioned that Roger Lynch has made no recent contact so he could not be offered for re-election.

LRA Events

Quiz Night- held in November and was compiled and compered by Laurence Curtis and his Team. Thanks to them.

Race Night - this had to be cancelled due to poor ticket sales

Light up Laleham in December. This was very enjoyable event.

The Village Fair – held on 6th July – this was successful despite poor weather conditions. We were indebted to the Surrey Canoe Club for the help given -especially on the day

Upcoming events

- Village Fair 5th July 2025 to include Ukulaleham performing
- Quiz Night -late 2025 date TBC
- Open gardens – 2026

Thames Flood Scheme, Laleham Pond, Trees, funded by LRA, Garden Open Day, Roadworks, IT - Review by Mike

River Thames Scheme (RTS) is aimed at reducing risk of flooding in Spelthorne. The scheme involves construction of flood relief channels which can be activated in times of flood. Also, the capacity of weirs at three downstream locks will be increased. The Scheme is important to many Laleham residents, in terms of flood risk reduction, property insurance costs and indeed the ability to obtain any insurance. The formal Statutory Consultation was held in 2024. There were objections received from the open water swimmers' community as to the use of the Ferris Meadow Lake as part of the scheme. After examination of alternatives, the RTS team concluded that the original scheme was the best. There are other local facilities available for wild water swimming. Application for a Development Consent Order is due to be made this year. The most recent timetable predicts the scheme to be in operation in 2030.

Laleham Pond is a hidden jewel on the Ashford Road. A new lease has been granted to the team of volunteers who maintain this environmental area. It is open to all on Tuesday mornings from 1000. Please come and help!

Trees – all those trees funded by the LRA are in good condition

Garden Open Day – this has been a popular event in years past but had to be shelved this year due to lack of gardens offered for viewing. A further attempt to run this event will be made next year. Please consider opening your garden.

Annual Review (contd)

Roadworks – firstly thanks to Cllr Attewell for the supplying the information now on the LRA website. the 3rd phase of the work at the new roundabout is due with finalisation of speed humps on approaches. Future work includes: -

- Resurfacing of Staines Road to Wrabness Way and Ashford Road from water intake to 27 Grange Place.
- Gas pipe changes in Ferry Lane.
- The new Zebra crossing near Vicarage Lane – Surrey Road ref MA27807113 -SPEL-SR-01.
- Traffic calming measures along Shepperton, Ashford & Staines roads for 20 mph Zone.

IT – since the Membership Data System going live, 160 renewal reminder emails have been sent. There are separate systems that enable Members to join, renew, book and pay for events online.

Local Plan and Laleham Park Hub – Review by Ken

Ken stated that the Local Plan Consultation with the Government Inspector finished at the end of May and the Inspector is considering 'main modifications' which should lead to approval.

The latest level of new built homes to be built in Spelthorne per year is set at 631 between now and 2039

Laleham Park Hub- Ken stated this was a scheme to bring a community hub into Laleham Park on the site of the old Sports Pavilion but the proposers have terminated the project as not viable.

Trustees Annual Report. The Trustees have a duty to submit an Annual Trustees Report to the Charity Commission and this had previously been emailed to all Members. The Meeting received the Trustees Annual Report

4. Treasurer's report and Accounts to 31 March 2025 Review by Steve

Steve presented his Report and Accounts. These documents had previously been emailed to all Members.

There was a correction to last year's Accounts due to a change in allocation of £75. This was due to some revenue being attributed to the Summer Fair when, in fact it was membership. The LRA have decided that if members give more than the £10 membership fee, any amount over £10 will now be treated as a donation.

A summary then followed: -

The LRA ended the financial year with net assets of £10,480.80– making a net deficit of £2,595.77. This compares with a net surplus of £1,229.83 last year. Our revenue was £6,071.54

- Memberships: £1,311 down by approx. 25% from last year.
- Events: £1,338.94 net
- Hanging Baskets donations: £462.00
- Other income: £1,276.04

Expenditure was £8,667.31

- £1,798.12 in Village upkeep which included refurbishment of the 'Laleham' Village sign outside the shop, planters at the War Memorial and flowers for Remembrance Sunday
- £3,408 on hanging baskets
- £200 contribution to costs of running the Heritage Centre – electricity etc.
- £20 for Light-up Laleham
- £500 donation to the Surrey Canoe Club
- Costs to host 3 events were £1,683.56 (net margin of 55%)
- LRA costs (bank & insurance) were £957.63.
- Storage Container- £100

The Treasurer and the Chair believe that more of the reserves should be allocated to projects within the Village. The Accounts are now managed via a professional accounting software for greater efficiency. The Meeting received the Accounts.

5 Subscriptions and Membership – Review by Mike

John Thesiger has decided not to stand as Membership Secretary from this AGM. Mike Garrett volunteered to take on this role, so from Autumn 2024, John & Mike performed a handover of the role and Mike has been acting Membership Secretary since then. The Committee wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to John for his contribution.

Subscriptions and Membership (contd)

Currently there are 200 households on record with 288 associated persons. However, only 130 households are paid up to date. More Members are paying online which simplifies matters for me and the Treasurer.

The subscription from 1st September 2024 is £10 per household (with any number of members) but more is welcome. Any excess payment over £10 will be recorded as a Donation.

6. Amendments to our Constitution

Introduction – The LRA Committee in 2022 decided to remove the responsibility of Management of the Heritage Centre from its activities and hand this to the Laleham Village Trustees. However, the LRA did agree to continue to fund the annual £200 to the Church towards the Heritage Centre running costs.

After discussion with the Heritage Centre Curator (Dominic O'Malley) and the volunteers, the current LRA Committee approached the Laleham Village Trustees with the proposal to return Management of the Centre to the LRA. The Trustees agreed and thus the Meeting is asked to approve this change to our Constitution.

It was approved without opposition.

7. Committee Election. Steve asked if anyone wished to become our Treasurer – no offers.

Steve then asked if any Member at the Meeting wished to join the Committee – no offers.

Steve asked if a global resolution was acceptable to the Meeting and it was agreed. This was followed by the Meeting seconding re-appointment of the current Committee:

8. Election of Officers. – proposed:

- Steve Bartlett (Chair)
- Ken Saunders (Vice Chair)
- Mike Garrett (Membership Secretary)
- Steve Bartlett (Treasurer)
- Rod Stamford (Secretary)

In addition, it was agreed that Jo Bartlett will be responsible for Social Media and Communications.

Steve asked if a global resolution was acceptable to the Meeting and it was agreed. This was followed by a Proposal of the Resolution by Gerry Morris and Seconding by Dominic O'Malley and acceptance by the Meeting with no objections.

9. Election of Trustees

Trustees are nominated/proposed by the LRA Committee and are elected/appointed by the Association's Annual General Meeting. Trustees are responsible in law for ensuring that the Association operates in accordance with The Charities Act and the LRA Constitution. Our Constitution spells out the Associations Objectives, Powers, Membership and other Rules.

Our existing Trustees are Michelle Purnell, Steve Bartlett & Mike Garrett but Michelle has resigned due to workload.

The Committee proposed Trustees are Mike Garrett, Steve Bartlett and Rod Stamford.

Two seconders from the floor were then requested. These were David and Maureen Birnie

The Meeting voted to accept these proposed Trustees without opposition.

The Constitution requires that Trustees are appointed annually by the AGM. Repeat appointments as a Trustee are permitted up to a maximum of four years after which a minimum break of one year is required

10. Any other business

From the floor, the question was raised asking why does Laleham now have 'on Thames' added to its name in some signs and situations. Laurence Curtis commented that in his opinion, it has always just been Laleham but other comments questioned this and thought it previously was 'on Thames'.

Cllr Attewell stated that the Studios are prepared to pay for and fit 'white gates' at the entrances to the Village and if done, she asked what do we want to do with the existing signs.

Steve then closed the Meeting.