

The 2026 Annual General Meeting of the RDRA was held at 7.30pm – 9.30pm on Monday the 15th June 2026 at Batchworth Lock Education Centre, Rickmansworth.

Minutes

The meeting was Chaired by Michael Stimpson (President)

President's address

Michael thanked Ash for all his hard work on the Committee and for being chair for 4 years. He continued that the two major problems have been the local plan and Batchworth Bridge.

Membership has dropped since covid because RDRA do not have people going door to door collection subscriptions. Michael said that we need to get this resolved and get back to 2020 numbers.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

The meeting began at 19.35.

There were apologies from Mike and Milly Sims, Natasha Tucker (who works for RDRA remotely).

2. Approve and sign off minutes of last AGM held on 16th June 2025

The previous minutes were approved and need to be signed.

3. Chair's Annual Report on the work of the Committee presented by Ash Patteni.

Ash began by stating that this was the 96th Agm of RDRA. He began by thanking all the Committee members

He continued that in the last 12 months,

- RDRA had petitioned for the reopening of both the Ebury play area and the woodland path.
- The Batchworth bridge work has progressed. Work will be done on this and a solution will be implemented by early next year.
- RDRA alerted Three Rivers District council about pollution in Money Hill parade.
- The highlighting of problems at springwell metal, both Hillingdon and TRDC were altered and a clear up has begun.
- RDRA were instrumental in preventing another burger bar opening in Moneyhill Parade. (it is now a Greggs).
- Involved in consultation about Beryl bikes.
- Ash represents RDRA in JRA (The Joint Residents Association) and attends TRDC meetings.

Events have included

- A dementia and a Festival of Later Life.
- Regular attendance at the Rickmansworth Sunday high street market.
- More social media use, meaning a broader reach to new people.

Challenges ahead

- new local government unitary authorities.
- Local plan especially REG 19. TRDC plan had significantly lower numbers of houses so government are insisting on building more houses in the area. To defend one site it will cost approximately £50k. RDRA need to raise funds through crowd funding. In Chorleywood the Parish Council is matching monies raised pound for pound. Importantly a Parish can claim back any vat incurred. So we'll have to unite with and work with BCC and neighbouring RA's.

Priorities for next year

- focus on matters important to our members.
- Continue to push the issues mentioned above.
- RDRA must expand fund raising and membership numbers.

Ash concluded by thanking the councillors, committee members and all members of RDRA.

His report was proposed by Anne Littelljohn and seconded by Laura Hiscock. It was unanimously accepted.

4. Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts presented by Sam Thakkar.

Sam explained that there had been a change of treasurer mid way through the year.

It had been a good year for money - RDRA has £7,146 in the bank

RDRA need to decide which charities to support.

RDRA has no assets

We made £25 last year, this year we made £761

Venue hire is £17 an hour for the Batchworth community center.

Other events are contributed to, such as the Dementia and the Better Life events.

JRA are not collecting subscriptions from the individual district committees so we are offsetting what we owe against that.

Andrea asked if RDRA has applied for grants from TRDC?

Sam replied that he has discussed this with Ash. The problem getting funds is that RDRA are not important enough to get these funds. We need to be affiliated to do this. He is looking into this.

Sam continued that the Accounts will be reviewed and signed off by an independent examiner later in the year.

His report was proposed by Paul Harding and seconded by Anthony. It was unanimously accepted.

5. The election of Officers and Committee, including the President but excluding the Chair who is elected by the Committee.

All officers were unanimously elected.

Treasurer- Sam Thakkar

Secretary – Suzanne Harding

Membership – Anne Littlejohn

Communications – Debbie Wheeler

Planning - Robert Templeton

Michael Stimpson was re-elected as President.

6. The appointment of External Accountants/Examiners.

The External Accountants/Examiners will be appointed at a later date.

7. Any Other Business.

a. Robert Templeman – planning

Today many councils had planning taken away by government. This included Hertfordshire CC, and TRDC will be next. We have the Catlips farm issue. The Government passed the plans but TRDC refused to accept them. In addition golf courses are under threat of development.

Any development of more than 150 houses will go straight to the Government.

He asked if there is an established need for more houses?

It is a Government dictat for TRDC to build 12k houses.



- b. Andrea Fraser – litter picking and graffiti
Batchworth PC have 3 residents association feeding into their litter picking. Does RDRA want to do this as well? Batchworth PC can loan equipment.
She also spoke about graffiti – we should be putting pressure on TRDC. Perhaps also do a graffiti cleaning day.

Sam asked what can we do to share and get this started?

Laura Hiscocks said that any graffiti on a road sign must be reported so that it can be cleaned. She also said that the Ebury way needs strimming.

8. Close meeting

The meeting was closed at 8.28

Guest Speakers

Susan Shanahan
Senior Trading Standards Officer

Hertfordshire County Council

How to keep safe from fraudsters who knock at the door or call on the phone - advice from Hertfordshire Trading Standards as to how to find good traders, how not to find them and what the common problem traders are that we're seeing at trading standards. Plus, telephone frauds, how to keep safe and examples of frauds that we're seeing at the moment.

Sue Shanahan is a Senior Trading Standards Officer who only works in the area of fraud - giving talks and training, supporting victims and investigating and prosecuting fraudsters. She has been with Hertfordshire Trading Standards for over 35 years which is a frightening amount but shows a true love of the job

Chen Tsui

Cyber Protect Officer, Serious Fraud and Cyber Unit

Hertfordshire Police

I am one of the Cyber Protect and Prevent Officers, based in the Serious Fraud & Cyber Unit. Join us to for some practical advice and guidance on how to protect yourself against a cybercrime and (online) fraud, including:

- the warning signs of cyber fraud and cybercrime.
- how to protect yourself by securing your online accounts, personal data, and devices.
- how to report and recover from fraud and cybercrime.