



Buckingham, Hamilton and Ruskin Association

Website <https://www.bhrassoc.org>

Contact: bhracommittee@gmail.com

Newsletter, Autumn 2019

AGM: Wednesday, November 20th, 7 pm
Coach House Trust Belmont Lane

Party: Sunday, November 3rd, 5 pm
The Viewpoint Hamilton Park Avenue

Clean up: Saturday December 7th, 10—12 noon

The **AGM** will be held in the Coach House Trust once again. We are grateful to them for hosting this event. Refreshments will be available, and membership will be taken at the door. The annual accounts will be presented and other business discussed.

Committee The constitution requires a proportion of the committee to stand down each year. This year Tony Hughes, who has been on the committee for the maximum time of 6 years, will be standing down. He acted as our link with the builders when Hamilton Gardens was under development, doing sterling work keeping the noise to a minimum, the trees on the riverbank standing and relations relatively friendly between residents and builders. We need new committee members, particularly from the Terraces, QMD and the new development. Please get in touch if you feel you might be able to help.

The Viewpoint After a very successful summer party, we have continued to work on getting the necessary permission to take on responsibility at the Viewpoint. Although the legal representative at the council has moved on, we are getting closer. Various members have worked both inside the walled area and on the outside flower beds. It certainly looks tidier. A WhatsApp garden group has been formed, and anyone interested in joining should contact Christine McGuigan via the website www.bhrassoc.org



In the meantime we are following up with a **Children's Party** between Halloween and Guy Fawkes night, on 3rd November at 5pm. Members and children will be welcome, and for children there will be a prize for the best costume and, inspired by Colin Miller, also for the best joke. The judges' decision will be final. There will also be refreshments for adults and children and we hope to have a firepit with marshmallows to toast. There will be an opportunity to donate towards the ongoing work on the Viewpoint gardens. Help with setting up or providing refreshments, Halloween type games – dookin' for apples, treacle scones on a string... – will be very welcome. To volunteer contact Frances by email, or drop a note in no 19 Hamilton Dr. The summer party lasted well into the evening. Let's hope this one can be as successful.



There will be another **Clean-Up** after the AGM, so that the leaves are off the trees. Look out for more information on the website and notices.

Hillhead Community Council We have continued to have a representative at the HCC. Although a lot of what they discuss concerns a much wider area, some matters a lot to us, such as the licensing of take-aways on Great Western Road. Anything staying open well beyond midnight is likely to affect our amenity. I think the main issue for us recently is the change in rubbish collection. Everyone should have had a leaflet through the door describing the new system, which works on an 8 day rota. This is because the binmen now work a 4 day shift, and so the rota means that the team dealing with a particular area should always be the same and so can provide feedback on local problems. We still have too many grey bins, and collections have not been regular of late, but we are told that this is because the new system is taking a while to bed in. There should be an online calendar of collection dates available by the end of October, which is some time after the new system started, but should be helpful.

The committee would still like a representative to go along to HCC meetings, but we manage on an ad hoc basis at present.

Roads and Parking Both individual residents and the BHRA have made representations about the parking on Ruskin Place, the corner of QMD and Hamilton Drive and in other locations. The council believes that within the signposts denoting the zone there is no need for yellow lines. However, most of the original road markings are faded or have been tarred over, and we do have some people parking both illegally and inconsiderately. Wardens are not always willing to engage, but it is worth asking. Parking on the pavement is never acceptable, nor is parking in a disabled bay without a permit, blocking access to a fire path or to road users or pedestrians. In particular, pavements should be clear so that wheelchair users, electric buggies and double and triple buggies can negotiate them without having to go out onto the street.

Trees After members expressed concern about the safety of some trees we have been in touch with the council. The committee has been told that an arboriculturalist from the council would be willing to walk round with one or possibly two individuals. We will try to arrange a date, but in the first instance, contact Frances if you have any concerns about trees in, or overhanging your property. It would be best if the person who accompanies the tree specialist knows everyone's hopes and fears. Obviously no one can be forced to do work on their trees unless there is danger to life.

We hope to see you at both the party and the AGM.



Archive image of the Viewpoint garden before it was blocked off.