



Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents Association

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Project Report for ASPRA AGM 22 April 2020

Christmas Lights

Christmas 2019 was the last year of our five-year contract and some say the best lighting so far. The issue remains with the layout of our lamp posts not lending themselves to alternate lighting pattern although it is nice to have two designs. Going forward the committee looked at and considered various options for Christmas lights but found no suitable alternatives. Festive Lighting advised we could have yearly, three yearly or five yearly deal and we also had the option of buying new lights, which would then be the same every year so discounted this as rather boring. We then had the option of renting new lights each year which was very costly or we could continue to have refurbished lighting as we have been doing. We chose to go with the refurbished lighting and were advised that at the end of March 2020 Vernon would be in touch to advise what was available. Unfortunately, by this time we were in Coronavirus lock down so watch this space. Our councillors continue to support us with contributions from their community budgets.

Hanging Baskets

ASPRA identified a local company, discussed options and received a quote. We agreed to go ahead with the best option to give us the most hanging baskets, taking into account lamppost furniture/signage. Unfortunately, the council advised that we could not have a flower tower as they considered there were health and safety issues with placing one of these at the Blackhorse near to our noticeboard. At this time we are unsure if our order will go ahead and wait to see the effect of Coronavirus restrictions on this project. Our councillors are supporting us with contributions from their community budgets.

Poppies

It was agreed that once again our poppies would go up on the lampposts in 2019 at the appropriate time and Councillor Maddie Henson organised this and thanks to her and the volunteers, we once again had a lovely display. This is agreed on a yearly basis so at ASPRA's September meeting we take the decision each year.

Silent Soldier

Once again ASPRA agreed to display the soldier which was again chained to our noticeboard for an appropriate period in 2019. When the first soldier was originally received it was quite bent so a replacement was sent and we were also left with the damaged soldier. This soldier was repaired to the best it could be and was considered good enough to be tied to the tree beside the

noticeboard, however someone took a fancy to him and he disappeared. This is agreed on a yearly basis so at ASPRA's September meeting we take the decision each year.