



AGM April 2020

Membership Secretary / Postmaster's Report

Membership

Membership continues to hover around the 800 mark throughout the year. Currently 819 out of the 1899 households within 'our' area, marginally down on figures for 2018-19. This is, by many standards, a good haul but it would be nice to do better, new ideas welcome.

The Membership fee falls due 'after the AGM' which for practical purposes is May each year. Many members have still not adjusted their standing order payment date to reflect the change of ASPRA membership year 4 years ago!. Approx 50% of the subs are actually paid in July, with much of the rest in August and September. The remainder 'dribble in' over the remaining months, or are paid early in the next year.

I am not sure where the 'subs envelopes' that are usually delivered with the May issue of the magazine disappear to, or emerge from, months later. Many do end up on a road reps doormat with a subscription inside, often frustratingly just after a late batch has been processed.

Furlong Close, the development behind 'The Cricketeers' is complete and is within the ASPRA boundary, a proposal at this AGM is for these residents to be included in our complement.

Postmaster

During the year ASPRA moved to a new website and set of email addresses. This change was built and delivered using popular standard software with the aim of significantly reducing the overhead for maintenance of the website and to provide additional email addresses, e.g. socialmedia@aspra.uk for Facebook and gardening@aspra.uk for the Gardening Group for the park.

This set of new email addresses has some head scratching amongst the committee as all sorts of 'helpful' features on our phones, iPads and computers have made it *interesting* as we start to swop over to using the new addresses. Messages to old and new style addresses will still get 'seen', your co-operation in remembering to use the new address will be much appreciated.

Emails to all, or some groups, of members are now much easier to create and send, and seem to be, so far, not as often tagged as 'possible spam' by the email providers. The usual mix of emails, hopefully of either use or interest have been despatched throughout the year.

Dave Lee