

NOTES OF OPEN MEETING HELD on 19 JUNE 2024

The open meeting was a jolly and friendly gathering of new and old members and a great opportunity to talk together about how to take the Association to a new stage, under the leadership of new co-chairs Sabrina and Christian. To end the evening, we had a quiz that tested our knowledge of Enfield's history, which was great fun for all.

Christian opened the meeting and recounted the activities that the Committee has undertaken over the past year.

The main direction of the Association will be to support stronger community relations, create spaces for neighbours to meet and make friends, and also provide practical advice and information to members on issues ranging from crime prevention to dangerous pavements and planning applications.

The next steps will aim to engage more widely with residents, councillors and other community organisations. We will issue a monthly Newsletter, engage proactively with existing members and reach out to the wider community. We will issue draft guidelines on how to access commonly-needed Council services, and explore the feasibility of a monthly FLDRA in-person surgery where members can go for guidance and support resolving problems relating to buildings, the street environment and other practical issues.

Guest speaker Tom Mautner, chair of the Arnos Grove CAPE (Community Action Partnership Enfield) explained that CAPEs were established throughout London in 2018 to engage residents in raising and communicating concerns to public authorities. Meetings are regularly attended by the Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team and by local councillors and include discussion of crime statistics.

Sabrina spoke about Planning and gave many useful tips about how to respond to planning applications, for example when there could be a negative impact on the enjoyment of your home. . She also presented the proposal for a face-to-face Saturday surgery, which was well received.

During the open discussion, members volunteered to distribute the new FLDRA leaflet to households in the Association's area and suggested that the leaflets could also be placed in estate agents offices, GP surgeries and supermarket boards, and could be featured in street WhatsApp groups. The meeting was closed by the co-chairs with thanks to all those present.

Christian & Sabrina co chairs FLDRA