

January / February 2019 update

Hadley Wood Association Trustees' Letter

We are looking forward to 2019 as a year of continued development of the Association as the essential hub and representative of the community. For this we depend on member support through subscriptions, support for events and active involvement; we welcome new members and all offers of help and ideas.

During 2018, we made a positive contribution to the community in many ways and laid the basis for wider activity with a wider range of individuals involved. We are here to coordinate efforts and support other local organisations as well as run activities ourselves as the Association. We held more community events at the Centre, and take the opportunity to thank our valued shared users (particularly Mrs Salmon and the Dance classes) for their cooperation when such events disturbed their regular activities, and the Tennis Club for renewed enthusiasm for shared use of the bar.

The AGM on 14 November showcased our Committee and some of our current and future plans to a full house gathering of residents. We looked back and honoured those who set up the Centre fifty years ago for the benefit of future generations, and forward with HWA Vision 2020 and the project for a new building. Immediate plans include the coordination of Crime Prevention and support for progress with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please see our website for the 2018 Accounts and Draft AGM Minutes, together with continuing information on Treetop, Crime, Neighbourhood Plan, Membership and HWA Vision 2020.

Within the Association, 2018 saw us return to surplus on revenue and expenditure and the Trustees and Committee have now been able to approve a 2019 budget with another surplus. We need to increase membership and add more fundraising events, but these are practical objectives. We shall look at a stronger programme of building improvements but with caution about costs.

We now have two Sub Committees: Security & Crime Prevention (with a Summit on 31 January) and Membership. Dawn Wellings is leading both of these with full support from Trustees and others. We are setting up new processes to make joining simpler for new members and to support the member benefit scheme and other initiatives.

We have appointed Katie Michael as our Secretary in place of Gill Henley who resigned as Secretary after the AGM but maintains her role with H&S and helping with membership, website and Hadley Wood News. Katie is a resident, a solicitor and well known to many through the WI. The Trustees should remain well organised.

As the roles of Chairman and Secretary pass to Robert and Katie, we express our appreciation for Rupert's time as Chairman, and to Gill for getting us into better order over the last year. Both will continue their HWA involvement, with Rupert leading on Centre & Grounds. Liz will lead for the Trustees on Membership.

The contribution of David Harbott as Treasurer and Julie Nedza supporting Louise Houston (Centre Manager) on accounting has been vital, and of Louise in running the Centre and the continued success of our hall hire. The Committee with Lisbeth Wirth, Dawn Wellings and Richard Walker have brought new ideas and action during 2018 and already pushing on in 2019. Thanks to all.

The Trustees of the Hadley Wood Association