



Lant and Bittern Streets Tenants & Residents Association

CHAIR'S REPORT

April 2010



Introduction:

This TRA came into being 19th Feb 2009 I was duly Elected Chair to served for 12 months. As Chair of Lant and Bittern Streets TRA I have been involved in all of the TA activities over the past 12 months. The following are activities and achievements of our TRA over the last year:

1. Attending Meetings & Training

I attended all of the TRA Business Meetings-in house and outside, in total my records shown that

48 Meetings, and approximately 240hrs was spent representing this TRA.

Also my other engagements-

Community Council Meetings, 5.

Tenants Council Meetings, 4.

Area Forum Meetings, 5.

SGTO Group Meetings, 8.

Conferences:/TRA away-day1.

SGTO, Away-day 1.

Others approx: 10

LBS Training/Resource Centres (Attendances)

60 Visits approx=

300 Hrs was spent

Outcomes

I gained knowledge, and a few Skills rewards:

1. Treasurer Skills
2. Chair Skills
3. Committee awareness Skills
4. First Aid, Certificate
5. Food & Hygiene certificate
6. Health & Safety certificate

I was honoured to have received an "Honorary Southwark Star Award" in March 2009 from the Worshipful the Mayor of Southwark, in Thanks and recognition for Special Contributions to the Community. The awards achieved are inspiring and overwhelming which encourage me along the way, I must give sincere thanks all those that gave Kind words and support.

OUR TRA Meetings

I'm happy to report that attendances at our meetings during 2009/2010 increased at our **8th September Meeting and 16 February 2010**. We recorded of over 30 resident's participation at those meetings THAT INCLUDED CHILDREN. I'm also happy to report that residents at Redman House has shown keen interest and involvement by turning up at the meeting with more than ten IN members, as a result of this we now have 5 committee members from Redman.

Our Theme for this coming 2010 is "Life is better living Together"

The theme of togetherness-working has distinct benefits for groups-and individuals, so the theme "Life is better living together" is used to reflect this concept, Involving more people, looking at how to engage and promote wider Involvement in the TRA.

2. Website www.lantestate.org.uk

The TRA established its website with the enormous help and professional know how from the SGTO, a big thanks to Nicky and Samuel for their guidance and commitment in making this possible.

3. Brighton Day Trip

The TRA had a very successful Day, full credit must be given to our Treasurer Mona! For the hard work and commitment given. Mona will comment more in her report. Please refer to our website for more information on the trip. Here are a few pictures to show you how the trip was well attended.

4. Funding successes

We have been awarded £46,500 On Wednesday 10th March 2010 we were awarded the above sum from the Cleaner Greener Safer Funding LBS. This year for the 2nd Phase of The Playground. We were also awarded a Grassroots Grants grant for our Brighton trip.

5.The Redman House Project

I'm happy to report that £30,000 has been awarded for the Completion of phase 2 of the playground at Bittern Street, (CGS funding 2010) and £16,500. Awarded for the Grass area Project at Redman House, our gratitude and appreciation goes out to our ward Councillors and to BOST for their Bid on our behalf.

6.Plant giver Giver Away day,

This was held on the 17th Aug on the grass area and it was a success. Bankside Open Space Trust (BOST) Initiative.

7. Playground refurbishment

£20,000 awarded from CGS for refurbishment phase (1) of the playground at Bittern street has been completed July 2009. A further award was given March 10th 2010 from CGS, amount **£30,000** to complete 2nd phase; work on the playground will start in June 2010. So far we have succeeded in securing the total sums of **£50,000** for the Playground.

8. Mint Street Adventure Centre:

We have been invited to participate in the gardening Project (Grown your Own). However participants are required and they could contact Jason, Mon to Friday 10am-6pm.

9. Training & Education

LBS Training Officer Harold Markham conducted in-House Training for Committee members on 11th Aug 2009 at the Queensborough Community Centre. It was very well attended.

Also members from Redman House received individual training at the resource Centre's during the 2009/2010 session (Chair, treasurer, and secretary).

10 Xmas and Eid Children's Party

On 20 December the TRA held a party in the Queensborough Community Centre for residents. It was very well attended. Lovely food was provided and lots of games were enjoyed. The children were given treats to take away.

11 Campaigning

Members of the TRA continued to campaign against the proposed Lant Street closure. Our efforts were reported in the local press.

12 TRA Newsletter

Our TRA produced and distributed 3 newsletters over the course of the last year. You can find copies on our website. We are always looking for residents to contribute ideas and stories.

FUTURE PLANS

We are looking forward to 2010 with excitement, great expectation and tenacity, engaging with the following-

We are in the process of organising a **Gardening Club** and development of green spaces in partnership with BOST, (Bankside Open Space Trust) around Lant estate,

A **Social Club** mainly for women and home makers,

A **Saturday Supplementary School** for youngsters who needs extra help with school work,

We intend to hold at least four Social Events annually primarily to enhance Community Development.

We have requested from the council to facilitate us with a Tenants Room

We have the assured promise of that accommodation is in the making (very soon ;)

We held the number of meetings that was schedule for 2009/2010 (10 plus 5 management officers meetings)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to pay compliments to LBS Officer's for their help and support over the past year, particular Jemma, Nat Stevens, Yetunde, Lynne, and last but not least a Big Thank you to Our Ward Councillors, Adele Morris and David Noaks for their hard work and commitment given to this TRA and the community over the past few years.

As Chair I must also be mindful of the hard work and sincere involvement some of the committee members contributed to the TRA in such a short time, respect goes out to our Minute Secretary he has done us proud with our Campaign fight to have Lant street re-open to pedestrians, and producing our Minutes at such short time, I commend his report to this Association,

Above all I would like to offer a big thanks to:

Our Treasurer Mona Hamed who has given to the Association an immense dedication, commitment, tenacity, and almost single handily organised all TRA Social events over the past 10 months as well as the successful Eld and Christmas party being organise by her, her work and record speaks volumes of her character, I commend her report to you (Thank you Mona)

SGTO: We thank the staff of SGTO for their hard work in preparing and reconciling our account, and would like to propose a Vote of thanks, and agreed that we retained their assistant as auditors for this coming year 2010/11.

Our efforts as a Tenants and Residents Association are beginning to pay off, our estate is looking and feeling much better to live on. I look forward to even more commitment from residents who can give up their time once a month to attend our meetings. Your support is much needed by attending the monthly meetings and have your say, to discuss problems & suggest activities. It can only stay that way with your continuing support, and hopefully, we can all continue to improve things.

We are hoping to Increase facilities for young people. At our meetings we intend to make provision for- Home Carers' Cost, A Kids Corner with Toys, and board games, staffed by two Carers.

It is reasonable for anyone who is volunteering to claim back expenses they have incurred whilst undertaking Voluntary work.

Finally a big thank you to all of you for attending today. I would be honoured to serve again as your Chair for this coming year.