



The Friends of Arnold Circus Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 7th November 2018
at Calvert 22, Calvert Avenue, E2 7JP

AGENDA

6.30pm - Refreshments and registration of members

7pm – AGM Business

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous AGM
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes
4. Vice-Chairs Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts
6. Election of committee members
7. Any other business

7.30pm - 'Shoreditch 3000' - Artist's Talk by Adam Dant
Q & A

Trustees Present

Leila McAlister (Vice Chair), Robin Hatton-Gore, Neil Cummings, Alice Herrick,
Samson Soboye, Jean Locker

Resignations in 2018: - Finn Williams and Megan Charnley

Total number in attendance: 30

1. Apologies

Jenny Bernard (Treasurer and Secretary) and Andrew Minter

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM

There were no minutes available.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising due to the lack of minutes.

4. Vice-Chair's report

The Vice Chair welcomed and thanked everyone present for attending the Annual General Meeting. Leila reported on the general activity of FOAC. She reported that the activity of FOAC had continued to be low-key. There had not been any events in the past year and the main activity was weekly gardening and the annual Open Garden and Squares Weekend. Fundraising for gardening had also been a priority. In response to questions Leila explained that Tower Hamlets Council have overall responsibility for Arnold Circus i.e. the infrastructure and trees and FOAC have a Service Level Agreement with the council to maintain the soft planting. If anyone wished to use the Circus for filming or a wedding blessing etc they would have to

seek permission from Tower Hamlets Council. It was suggested that FOAC invite a councillor to the meetings in order to raise our profile.

The Biodiversity Project - The Friends of Arnold Circus were invited to apply for 2K to increase Biodiversity on Arnold Circus by Tower Hamlets. The Biodiversity Project Funding from Tower Habitats supported by the Tower Hill Trust has been a great opportunity to add shrubs and plants to make a significant difference to the planting and support the potential for an extension to the wildlife corridor in this urban area.

Andy met with the Tower Hamlets Biodiversity Officer John Archer who suggested we do the following: Add more perennial plants, create a hedgerow. increase the number of evergreens and plants with berries, provide additional bird boxes and install bat boxes

The project took place over five months from May to September 2018. Firstly Andy and volunteers cleared an area for the hedgerow, or, as it has been named, The 'Wildlife Superhighway'. The first plants were added in June. Andy chose plants that flowered early, with colour and scent to provide a food source for insects hatching or out of hibernation, long flowering nectar rich plants to attract bees, butterflies and insects, late flowering for late nectar and colour, winter berries - food source for birds, evergreen - to provide ground cover for creatures to shelter and forage. The bird boxes were installed by Andy, Robin and Neil and we have asked Tower Hamlets to install the day roost boxes for the bats. The final planting went in at the end of September and the bat day roost boxes will be installed soon.

This might seem to be the end of the current project but we will continue to add plants to support wildlife and enrich the natural environment and biodiversity of Arnold Circus.

5. Treasurers Report and presentation of draft accounts for the year ending March 2018

Leila reported on the Annual Accounts in the absence of Jenny Bernard.

She reported that there was little activity except monthly gardening invoices from Andy and Alicia. There had been a great deal of filming and this was reflected in the accounts as FOAC had received over 1K in donations from the film dept. There is no way of knowing how the charges to the film companies are made but it makes us a little income. The draft accounts showed net income for the year of £1,722 mainly income from filming, print sales and the bulk from The Tower Hill Trust which is restricted to gardening expenses. Due to funds brought forward from previous years, this leaves an overall balance of £15,575.

6. Election of committee members

There were no elections of new members. Due to the resignations received in the year there was no need for any current committee members to stand down. Leila invited expressions of interest to anyone interested in becoming a trustee. She explained that meetings are held quarterly at Leila's shop in Calvert Avenue.

7. Any other business

Sales of FOAC water bottles to raise funds to buy and install a drinking fountain on the Circus have reached its goal of £2000. Discussion is now taking place as to where to install the fountain.

Leila thanked Olesya Krasko and all at Calvert 22 for hosting the FOAC AGMs for the past 4 years and wished them well as they are moving to new premises.

7.30pm - 'Shoreditch 3000' - Artist's Talk by Adam Dant
Q & A

9pm – Finish

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