

Welcome to the ABOYNE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION monthly newsletter for  
**OCTOBER 2014**

***This newsletter aims to keep our members up to date with any developments, major and minor, that are likely to have an impact on where we live.***

**STRATEGIC LOCAL PLAN**

The Council is carrying out a massive consultation on their draft Strategic Local Plan. This plan is about finding policies and principles regarding what can be built, and where, over the next two decades. We all have an opportunity to shape this. The consultation runs for a period of six weeks, from Oct 10 to Nov 22. Please find time to take part. Your ideas are being sought, and no-one knows the city better than those of us who live in it and care about it. This is the link - don't be daunted, it's worthwhile, and if you go to the Summary, it's well explained.  
<http://stalbans-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>

**SPOTTED BULL/ THE BRICKYARD**

The recent application for a licence was refused, due to the likely increase in noise and the impact on residents. The new owner has now put in a further application. Anyone who wishes to lodge a personal objection (the more the better) should do so. ARA and other RAs will again contest this, as we firmly believe that the nature of the new business in the redeveloped site will lead to a significant impact in terms of Public Nuisance (one of only four permitted grounds of objection to licence variation). E-mails should be sent to [licensing@stalbans.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@stalbans.gov.uk) before 27 October. (And yes, there's still an enforcement notice in place, as the property has been over-extended without the necessary permissions. The hearing for this is in December.)

**PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE - NURSING HOME TO HOMELESS HOSTEL**

Residents of Church Crescent have been informed of a proposed change of use of the old nursing home at the end of the Crescent into a 16 bedroom property providing short stay accommodation for homeless people within St Albans. Many residents are uneasy about this proposal, and a heated meeting with the charity concerned, Hightown Praetorian and Churches Housing Association, took place on Monday night. Local councillors are now becoming involved - information has not been forthcoming up to now, for them as well as for locals. An action group is now in place - you can find out more or make contact, should you have concerns, at [stclairactiongroup@gmail.com](mailto:stclairactiongroup@gmail.com). ARA will be staying across this situation as it develops.

**CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE**

St Albans Council (SADC), at its City Neighbourhood Committee (25/9/14), took the bold step to delegate part of the committee's budget to each of the 8 city Wards. This means that for each Ward we have £5000 to spend, shared across the 3 Ward councillor's areas. This is for local initiatives, driven by local people. There is no set criteria - instead, SADC are keen to see Residents Associations such as ARA work alongside their Ward councillor to generate ideas and to create outcomes that matter to local people. So if you fancy some guerrilla gardening and need plants or some materials, then let us know more about it. Or what about having a street party; help might be available to hire bunting and trestle tables. In reality, it's over to you - let's try to use this to create a difference in our area. Contact us on: [aboynera@gmail.com](mailto:aboynera@gmail.com) - mark it **attention; Mary Conneely**. We'll assist you to work proposals and put them forward.

**YOUR VIEWS ON THE MUSEUM OF ST ALBANS SITE**

The site on which the current Museum of St Albans currently sits is being developed, and the council are seeking local views on the best way forward with this too. The design organisation Look! St Albans is holding three events over the weekend of Oct 24 - 27 and all are welcome. Find out more at <http://www.lookstalbans.org>

**PARKING PERMITS - A USEFUL TIP**

The new online service for residents permits comes highly recommended, largely because it doesn't require the increasingly tiresome locating/ downloading of recent utility bills. Find it at <http://www.stalbans.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/parking/>

***You can contact ABOYNE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION at [aboynera@gmail.com](mailto:aboynera@gmail.com)***

