

## Summary of the BHA Board Meeting + AGM September 24 2020

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1. The board first heard from the auditors, Mazars, that BHA had a “clean” financial audit showing that BHA remain stable in spite of the impact of COVID-19. The auditors also highlighted BHA’s strong approach to value for money.
2. Susan French, presented the **Chief Executive’s report** which covered updates on:
  - The appointment of a new **Asset Manager** to manage BHA’s repairs and maintenance service and BHA’s approach to decarbonisation and sustainability.
  - The plans to make BHA’s homes more **energy efficient for residents** and decreasing their carbon footprint, including the planned Barnsbury Street refurbishment works
  - BHA are looking to set up a steering group for the **Morland Mews garages** project, to get residents’ views on policies related to this development and get their views on how construction should be carried out. The final planning permission from the council for the project is expected to be finalised soon.
  - The Board were also pleased to see that options for improving accessibility and facilities at **Highbury View** continue to be looked at.
3. The board were updated on the **Operations and Health & Safety**. The board were informed that tenant arrears had increased recently and staff would be focusing on this. The board also heard that many more repairs are being reported now and the maintenance team is working hard to clear jobs ahead of an expected “second spike”. The team is also preparing for this by trying to get ahead of annual gas safety checks and trying their best to complete any repairs that are likely to worsen during winter.
4. The board approved a suite of updated HR **policies** related to staff. These had been previously approved by the Governance and Remuneration committee. The board also approved updated governance policies related to terms of reference for each committee.
5. The AGM was also held in which **Janice Walsh and Chris Bell were formally appointed as board members**. Aaron Elliot, Barbara Sidnell, Stephane Croce and Jonathan Bunt were approved for re-election to the board. BHA’s shareholders heard updates on BHA’s approach to sustainability, it’s current financial status, how BHA is managing the impact of COVID-19 and the plans for the upcoming year.
6. Chair, Sean McLaughlin, also made special mention to the retirement of caretaker, **Richard Bull**, after 43 years’ service. Richard had also recently won a Housing Heroes Tenant Lifetime Contribution award. **Steve Woodgates** and **Spencer Benoit** were also praised for their dedication to keep BHA’s service going throughout lockdown.