

Radlett Reform Synagogue 2019 AGM Report : Wider Community

Our congregation is part of, and plays a role in, the wider community of Radlett and the surrounding area from which we draw our members, as well as the local Jewish community. The aim is to ensure that the synagogue and its interests are represented on and contribute to the work of various local committees and bodies, and that the synagogue supports and participates in appropriate events and initiatives.

We attend meetings of the Hertsmere Forum of Faiths with Parish and Borough Councillors and representatives of different religious groups which seek to promote understanding and community within the Borough. These meetings inform Hertsmere Borough Council thinking on issues that affect members of local religious faiths.

We support the work of the Council of Christians & Jews and represented the synagogue at two major events celebrating its 75th Anniversary: a dinner at Lambeth Palace and a reception at Westminster Abbey. However, it is disappointing that after 33 years the Radlett & District branch of CCJ has been disbanded. Locally, we represented the shul at an event at Aldenham School in support of Aldenham Church: a Grade 1 listed building.

We monitor Parish, Borough and County websites to ensure that the synagogue's interests are covered, and review local planning applications that may have implications for the synagogue. We continue to follow the proposed development of Newberries car park and the possible implications for visitors to the shul. We are also tracking a possible development adjacent to the synagogue premises.

We attend meetings of Hertsmere Community Safety Partnership which works to make Radlett and surrounding villages healthier, happier and safer places to live. We liaise with Radlett United Synagogue on matters of religious and secular mutual interest.

On the social side, Radlett Reform is an integral part of Young@Herts, an initiative of Jewish Care, which coordinates and publicises information on events across Jewish groups and Synagogues in the area and also organises activities in its own right.

David Grossman
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