

Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee

held on Tuesday 7 April 2020

The Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has dominated all forms of daily life in the UK for the past month. The Herne Hill Society has followed UK Government guidelines and arranged for this meeting to take place using the software application Zoom. All attendees stayed at home and connected by video and microphone links. The restriction of 40 minutes placed on the meeting by Zoom meant that the Committee stuck to an abbreviated agenda.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The meeting was attended by Colin Wight (Chair, CW); Henry Ferguson (Secretary, HF); Laurence Marsh (LM); Martyn Hall (MH); Val Suebsaeng (VS); Rosalind Glover (RG); Annie Gelly (AG); Dave Gelly (DG); Pat Roberts (PR); and Rebecca Tee (RT).

Apologies: Carol Boucher (CB) and Jackie Plumridge (JP)

2. Does the Society have a particular role to play, locally, during the Coronavirus crisis?

It was decided that the Society did not have a *particular* role to play in the current crisis. The Society would be prepared to help in any way it could if the situation changes. It was suggested that notices could be placed on the information boards to advertise the Society's small grants scheme; money that could help charities through the crisis. However, due to the UK Government's "stay at home" policy footfall outside these noticeboards would be minimal. It was further suggested that social media or the magazine was a better means of advertising the grants. A draft notice will be prepared by MH.

Information that needs to be drawn to the people of Herne Hill will be sent out via Twitter. (CW)

3. Herne Hill Magazine

The editorial team is waiting for a few more articles to come in, including a long piece about the London Plan and proposed residential towers in Loughborough Junction. (LM)

Catford Printers are still operating but physical delivery would not be possible due to the virus. Solutions could be emailing all members with a link to the magazine online, or an email with the magazine attached, or both (file size might be too big). CW and LM to further investigate.

4. Recruitment and Membership

VS and RG to delay Membership Secretary handover discussions till after the crisis is over. RT pointed out that the coronavirus crisis would obviously impact recruitment opportunities. The Committee will re-visit the issue after the crisis.

5. Future Public Events

The earliest possible public event would be in September, depending on UK Government guidelines. Possible speakers are Ian McInnes and the Herne Hill Welcomes Refugees team. (MH)

6. Social Media

CW indicated that he was happy to continue handling social media, but any volunteers to take over or share would be welcome. RT volunteered to share responsibility following a discussion on the purpose and benefits of using social media. (RT and CW)

7. Finance

MH to email current financial data, comparing this year's and the previous year's 1st quarter.

8. AOB

Peachy Goat, the new Bistro and Bar in Half Moon Lane, has applied for a 3.30am entertainment licence. It will be opposed by the Society. (LM)

9. Date of next meeting

Next month's meeting will be on Tuesday 5 May 2020; venue and means of communication subject to the UK Government's guidelines. Rebecca Tee will chair the meeting.