

Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee

held on Tuesday 5 May 2020

Government Lockdown and social distancing is still in force, due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. The meeting took place using Zoom and was chaired by Rebecca Tee.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendees: Colin Wight (Chair, CW); Laurence Marsh (Vice Chair, LM); Martyn Hall (Treasurer, MH); Henry Ferguson (Secretary, HF); Rebecca Tee (Meeting Chair, RT); Val Suebsaeng (Membership, VS); Rosalind Glover (RG); Annie Gelly (AG); Pat Roberts (PR); Carol Boucher (CB).

Apologies: Jackie Plumridge (JP) and Dave Gelly (DG).

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the April meeting and all matters arising were discussed under items below.

3. Role of the Herne Hill Society including social media

The Society's role is limited. Through using social media and distributing funds via the small grants scheme, the Society hopes to aid the residents of Herne Hill.

- a) Notices to be placed in the next issue of the magazine, advertising the Society's small grants scheme. A draft notice will be prepared by MH.
- b) A list of possible small grants scheme recipients to be drawn up by PR and MH.
- c) Information that needs to be notified to the people of Herne Hill will be sent out via Twitter and also passed to local WhatsApp groups. (CW)

Closely related is the future use of social media for recruitment and raising the profile of the Society. RT and CW have had conversations on this matter and will continue to do so. The main idea so far is greater exposure of the Society's archives on Twitter (magazine, oral history project and publications).

4. Herne Hill magazine

The Spring issue of the magazine was published online to favourable reviews. An email was sent to members giving them the options of viewing the magazine as either a PDF (capable of being downloaded) and as a virtual magazine on the

Issuu.com website (not downloadable). A reminder to be sent by email/Twitter directing recipients to the online magazine. (CW) Also, it has been suggested we gain feedback/comments on members' views of what they like, find interesting or otherwise of the magazine. (CW)

5. Recruitment and membership

VS gave a summary of the current membership figures. The Society has 246 members, down from 299 at the end of 2019. 72 members have not renewed and there are 8 new joiners. VS will send the detailed spreadsheet to RG and RT as part of the handover process.

6. Future public events

There is still uncertainty about future events. September is the hoped for month for talks to be organised and advertised. Robert Holden's walks are scheduled for September, with social distancing in place.

7. Links with other societies/groups

There is no change to the previous minutes. No links will be pursued at the current time. Suggestions were put forward on investigating if known street WhatsApp groups can be contacted. The Society is aware of WhatsApp groups in Fawnbrake Road, Frankfurt Road and Hawarden Grove.

8. Finance

MH has not received the April bank statement so no figures were shared.

9. VE Day celebrations and commemorations, Friday 8 May

It was proposed that CW would collate images and stories sent by Committee members on Herne Hill during WWII. These would then be put onto social media.

10. WWI War Memorial - 7th Day Adventist Church

An invoice for £655 has been received from the Church on the works to place the memorial on the outside wall for the public to see. The Society has negotiated to pay half of the cost. A new invoice will be raised. The cost will be put through the small grants scheme. MH to pay invoice when he receives it.

11. Planning and licensing

Objections to Lambeth concerning the major planning application for Dorchester Court are being drafted by LM. He explained that it is a lengthy and complicated application. Once completed it is to be passed by the Planning Group and copied to interested parties.

RG pointed out that licensing applications cannot be suitably scrutinised as the South London Press is no longer in circulation. By law the applications need to be advertised but there are no publications to advertise them in!

12. Date of next meeting

Next month's meeting will be on Tuesday 2 June 2020. Meeting will be on Zoom starting at 5pm. It will be chaired by RT.