

Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee

held on Tue 1 December 2020

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

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

Apologies: Jackie Plumridge (JP); Annie Gelly (AG)

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of November's meeting were accepted as an accurate record and all matters arising were discussed under later agenda items.

3. Strategy Session

Four small strategic discussion groups had met since the last meeting and it was agreed that this form of starting the strategic planning was beneficial. The conclusions from the different groups will be discussed in subsequent meetings.

4. Herne Hill magazine and publishing

There are a number of ideas for the next magazine, with one finished article. LM has met with CW and Jon Newman about the forthcoming Ruskin book. Estimated publication date is June 2021.

5. Magazine advertising

MH has analysed the latest magazine advertising income. Advertisers have not been charged during 2020 to help them through the Covid crisis. It was proposed that all advertisers be contacted by mid January 2021 and offered advertising space for the forthcoming year: 3 issues at the current rate of £60 (quarter page), £120 (half page) and £255 (full page). (ACTION: CW/MH)

6. Brockwell Park private events

Lambeth Council has published its proposed major events schedule for Summer 2021 in Brockwell Park. The Society will take a neutral stance at this stage, but will alert members via e-newsletter and social media.

(ACTION: CW)

7. Recruitment and membership

RG and CB have reduced the “missing an email address” list to less than a dozen members.

8. Finance

RG has collected £295 in Gift Aid. Currently quarterly financial statements are reported to the Committee in February, May, September and November. A suggestion was put that if there were any significant changes in-between these could be delivered to the Committee. **(ACTION: MH)**

9. Planning and licensing

LM informed the Committee that Lambeth Council will be consulting on the addition of Station Square and some surrounding streets to the Brockwell Park Conservation Area. This was a Herne Hill Society initiative.

10. Performance measures and record keeping

CW talked about his monthly activity report and explained why it was helpful for forward planning. If it is to continue, another member will have to take this task on in 2021.

11. AOB

A proposal for a new local charity was discussed. The conclusion was that the Committee would publish an article in the next magazine but did not feel it had the resources at this time to take on any administrative role if and when the scheme gets off the ground.

(ACTION: PR)

Anne Sharpley, the Society's archivist, is to be contacted to update us on the state of the archives.

(ACTION: LM)

CW announced that he will stand down as Chair by the end of December. He will stay on the Committee until the AGM, assuming this takes place next Spring. If the Committee is in favour, RT can be co-opted as Chair. Members will be informed by email and in the next magazine.

12. Date of next meeting: 5pm on Zoom on 5 January 2021

Next month's meeting will be on Tue 5 January 2021 on Zoom, starting at 5pm. It will be chaired by RT.