

**Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee
held on Tuesday 7 December 2021 by Zoom**

1. Welcome and Apologies

Rebecca Tee (RT)	Chair	Nigel Thorpe (NT)
Laurence Marsh (LM)	Vice Chair	Lin Proctor (LP)
Martyn Hall (MH)	Treasurer	
Carol Boucher (CB)	Secretary	
Ros Glover (RG)	Membership Secretary	

Apologies were received from Henry Ferguson (HF) and noted from Jackie Plumridge (JP).

2. Minutes of November meeting and Matters arising

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and all matters arising were discussed under later agenda items with the exception of:

Some difficulty has been encountered in setting up the instructions for online bank access to the Officers to enable them to process transactions. It is hoped that this can be resolved shortly.

Action: MH

There are a number of outstanding bills to be paid which have been delayed due to the problems with gaining online access to the bank account. It was agreed that these should now be paid by cheque as a matter of urgency.

Action: MH

The posters have now been printed and will be located around the area.

Action: CB

An informal introduction to the Society for new members will be arranged by Zoom in early January and will take the form of a 'drop in' over a couple of hours.

Action: RT/RG

The stock check of local maps is underway and will be circulated to the Committee soon.

Action: CB

NT confirmed that the Heritage Trail display in the Station Tunnel is now up on the grilles and receiving interest and comment. Our thanks go to Kate Roncoroni, the designer of the banners, and to Jasia Warren from Herne Hill Forum for their work and to NT for management of the project.

3. Performance Statistics including Finance, Membership and Sales

MH had informed the Committee earlier that the cost of the storage unit for 2022 had been invoiced incorrectly and that, in fact, the storage charge for next year will be the same as for 2021, which is welcome news.

Monthly finance reporting has not been available over the last few months, but MH confirmed that end of year figures will be presented as soon as possible in the New Year and ideally in time for the January Committee meeting.

Action: MH

The launch of the 'Sunset over Herne Hill' book at the Half Moon was very successful with 40 invited guests attending. Sales of the book are going well with a number of bookshops ordering copies and half the stock has been despatched after only six weeks.

Membership continues to increase with a total of 351 members at the end of November: a record number.

4. 40th Anniversary Plans

A paper outlining the ideas for the Anniversary display in the Station Tunnel was discussed and it was proposed that the four banners should be based on the themes featured on our recruitment leaflet and in the heading of our e-Newsletters which are: Our Community, Our Environment, Our Heritage and Our Future. It was suggested that images of a selection of our publications could be spread across the four banners. NT noted that the budget for the banners would be similar to the current Heritage Trail display and that, if possible, the format would be adapted to mount a display in the Carnegie Library as well as in the tunnel. The working group will meet in early January to research images for the banners.

Action: NT/CB/LM

Other plans for the anniversary year include planting a tree in Brockwell Park, a celebratory cake, the Good Practice Awards, and a potential project with local schools. The January meeting will progress these further, noting that the anniversary year starts formally in March 2022.

5. Publishing

LM reported that the next edition of the magazine is being compiled and that it is hoped to have it printed in December with distribution to members taking place in January.

Action: LM/RG

As noted above under Item 3, LM confirmed that feedback from the launch event of the Ruskin book has been very positive and that the pace of sales is very encouraging. The Committee was asked to promote the publication through their own networks on social media, WhatsApp groups and other appropriate communication channels. The welcome letter to new members will be amended to include a reference to 'Sunset over Herne Hill' in the text to encourage purchases.

Action: All

6. Planning and Licensing

LM reported on two ongoing issues:

- Cressingham Gardens – Lambeth has effectively given itself Planning Permission to demolish part of this architecturally renowned estate. The Brixton Society, the Friends of Brockwell Park as well as the Society have lodged objections over time to the way that development of this estate is being proposed by the Council, making a particular

point that it is on the edge of the Brockwell Park Conservation Area and, in our view, should be included in this CA.

- Lambeth have now acknowledged our correspondence on the deficiencies in the documents that were available on its Planning Portal in relation to the Dorchester Court Planning application. Planning Group members are now assessing these in preparation for a Planning Committee meeting in mid-January, which is expected to consider this major application.

7. AOB

RT asked the Committee to give thought to how we conduct our AGM in March next year and also the content of our 2022 Business Plan before we meet in January.

Action: All

Both the Chair and Vice Chair have incurred personal expenditure in relation to our recent activities and these were approved for reimbursement.

Action: MH

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 4 January 2022 at 6pm by Zoom.