

**Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee
held on Tuesday 3 January 2023 at 6:00pm
at the Half Moon Hotel**

Present: Rebecca Tee (RT, Chair); Laurence Marsh (LM, Vice-Chair); Martyn Hall (MH, Treasurer); Ros Jones; Ros Glover (RG, Membership Secretary); Michèle Arnal (MA, Secretary)

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Apologies from Annie Gelly (AG), Henry Ferguson (HF), and Lin Proctor (LP).
Declaration of interests: none reported.

2. Minutes and matters arising from 6 December 2022 meeting

Minutes of meeting agreed as circulated. No matters arising.

3. Performance Statistics, incl. Finance, Membership and Sales

RG advised that membership continued to grow, with a new total of 386, including two new members and several renewals. The Society has c.6,000 followers on Twitter and 1,000 on Facebook. Main expenditure continues to be magazine printing. There was some discussion about book stock. It was agreed that an annual stock-take of publications would be undertaken by RT.

4. Planning and Licensing

LM reported that there were no new matters to be dealt with.

5. Membership payment system

RG had circulated a comprehensive report on membership. Annual fees provide the Society's main source of income, and are paid in various ways, mostly by Direct Debit and PayPal. The level of fees was discussed, as well as the pros and cons of raising fees at this time. It was agreed that RT and RG would contact other local societies which had introduced Direct Debit payment of membership subscriptions to discuss the practicalities and what work was involved. It was agreed to leave membership fees as at present, but to keep it under review. RT pointed out that the Society's bank balance was currently healthy so there was no immediate need to increase fees. Committee members thanked RG for her comprehensive report.

Action: RG/RT

6. Herne Hill Excellence Awards

RT was pleased to report that the Society had received a high number of nominations for these awards in the categories of Heritage, Environment and Community. It was agreed that this was an excellent start to this new initiative by the Society. RT asked that this information be kept within the group for the time being,

7. New Treasurer and Society President

RT advised that someone had expressed interested in taking on this role; discussions were at an early stage, but she hoped for a positive result soon. It was agreed that Colin Wight, who served as the Society's Chair for many years, be invited to take the position of President.

8. Blue Plaque Scheme

LM advised that he had been approached by Ian McInnes, former Chair of the Dulwich Society, who was interested in helping with our Blue Plaque Scheme and perhaps expanding it to the Dulwich area in due course. It was agreed that he should be invited to attend future meetings of the shops history group where this matter would be discussed with members LM, RJ and RT.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 6:00pm. by Zoom. Please put the date in your diary.