

**Minutes of a meeting of the Herne Hill Society Committee  
held on Tuesday 2 July 2024  
at the Half Moon Hotel**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Rebecca Tee (RT) Chair, Laurence Marsh (LM) Vice Chair, Lyndon Fothergill (LF) Treasurer, Ros Glover (RG) Membership Secretary

RT welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from: Martyn Hall, Lin Proctor, Susie Perring and Henry Ferguson

**2. Minutes of 4 June 2024 Committee meeting:**

With a couple of minor corrections, the minutes of the 4 June meeting were accepted as a true record and would be submitted to Colin Wight for the website. **Action: RG** (done 3 July 2024)

The minutes of the March 2024 Committee meeting were also approved and would be submitted to Colin for inclusion on the website. **Action: RG** (done 3 July 2024)

**3. Performance Indicators:** RG announced that membership currently stood at 393 (383 at June 2023). This included three new members recruited at Ruskin Park Summer Fair (15 June) and a couple more subsequently. There was also a very late renewer. Following a chat to the Camberwell Society it was revealed that they didn't allow people to visit their Open Gardens unless they joined that Society. This, or something similar, might be considered for future events that we might hold.

The Camberwell Society also explained to RT that they had moved away from Standing Orders and were now taking membership subscriptions and renewals by Direct Debit. Although this was more effort to start with it, proved easier in the longer term – they would not go back to Standing Orders now. The Camberwell Society would send RT copies of their paperwork to help us set this up, if we chose to go down that road. Camberwell Society also confirmed that they had a different membership structure: Household, Individual, Concession, and they also ask for an additional amount if members have their magazine posted to them, as opposed to being delivered by hand. With a view to a possible restructuring of Herne Hill Society membership rates, RG would let the Committee know how many members currently paid at the concessionary rate. **Action: RG**

**4. Finance:** LF reported that takings at recent events (Ruskin Park Summer Fair and Dorchester Court Artists' Open House) totalled as follows:

11/12 May 2024	Dorchester Court Open House weekend
Sumup:	£26.50
Cash	£16.00
	Total: £42.50

15 June 2024	Ruskin Park Fete
Sumup:	£72.00 (NB £21.00 in 2023)
Cash:	£60.00
	Total: £132.00

7 September 2024	Local History Fair	
Sumup: £207.00	(£212.00 in 2023)	
Cash: £10.50	(£ 60.50 in 2023)	Total: £217.50

These amounts included the new memberships referred to above and the sale of Society publications. LF also presented a revised (based on that composed in 2018) Reserves Policy Document. This was agreed to be a very good starting point. A further draft, taking into account points raised during discussion and information/knowledge of future project costs, would be presented at September's Committee meeting. It was agreed that reviewing the Policy every three years was about right for the size and requirements of the Society.

**Action: LF**

**5. Planning Issues:** LM reported that this activity was very quiet at the moment. The major planning application for Dorchester Court had been refused by Lambeth. Future action by the applicant was not known.

**6. Updates:** RT had spoken to Kate Roncoroni (KR) about:

- i. tweaking our recruitment/publicity leaflet to generally update it and make it clear that the Society was run entirely by volunteers. KR would put together some ideas for consideration;
  - ii. putting together a summary leaflet of the last Excellence Awards winners to act as pre-publicity and promotion of the 2025 Awards ceremony;
  - iii. postcards of five historic views of Herne Hill on the back of which would be a few words of history about each one. They would be sold in packets of 5 cards. One card might be included with each new member's welcome letter. KR would provide a rough idea of costs before RT asked LM to provide the text. The cards would also give details about how to join the Society;
  - iv. RT would ask KR to design and quote for the roundel (to include the QR code) for the shops history project. The roundel was envisaged as being very simple and including "The Herne Hill Society" on the top and a sentence to say "On this site in ... stood ....". RT asked LM for an indication of the number of shops in the first phase of the project.
- Action: LM**

**7.** RT is starting to put together a plan for the next (2025) round of Excellence Awards. She would, at an appropriate time, reconvene the Events Team to take this forward. RT would also provide a few words of introduction to the 2025 Awards for LM to be included in the next magazine. **Action: RT and LM**

**8. Next meeting:** The next formal HHS Committee meeting would be **at 6:00pm on Tuesday 3 September at the Half Moon** (please note your diary) but consideration was being given to having **an informal, Summer Social get-together on Tue 6 August**. More to follow.