

HITCHAM & TAPLOW SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting Taplow House Hotel Monday 24th April 2017 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present:

Rupert Sellers (chair)
Bob Hanbury
Miv Wayland-Smith
Nigel Smales
Eva Lipman

Charlie Greeves
Zoe Hatch
Louise Symons
Roger Worthington

Apologies:

Al Hill
Tony Hickman

• MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the March meeting were agreed after amendment of apologies received and date of previous meeting.

• TREASURER'S REPORT

Balances at 24/4/17 were: £2912.97 and £1575.76. On-line banking has been successfully initiated. Roger needs to complete application form as second signature.

Insurance has been renewed with existing company. Will do competitive review next year. This year done quickly in belief that it was needed for the Easter Egg Hunt. Turns out that it doesn't cover events on private land – Charlie has to insure this separately. Covered through Sheila's insurance. A list of overdue subscriptions was produced. Zoe will send email to these as a reminder, with a view to collection with the newsletter.

• NEWSLETTER

.pdf delivered to Peter Webb today, hopefully for delivery Friday. Roger and Nigel will co-ordinate insertion of flyer and update deliverers list. Nigel would like to clear by Tuesday for personal commitments. The wording of the flyer was agreed. Zoe did not have cost of printing (one side colour, one side BW) but expected to find cheapest price online. Needed for insertion for the weekend if NL delivery is on time.

Nigel has agreement from Martin Knight to write an article for next NL on the Mill Lane footbridge scheduled for September installation. An illustration was circulated but not released.

• PLANNING

No local applications of any note were outstanding.

The appeal over 5 Ellington Gardens was discussed. The appeal is limited to the validity of the Sequential Test for building within flood plain 2 and 3a. Rupert advised that there may be an objection possible relating to a 2m ground clearance requirement that the application may not be meeting.

The Parish Council had distributed the questionnaire for the Neighbourhood Plan to some 931 addresses and to date has received 100 responses.

Roger did not write to Berkeley Homes to object to the fencing along the Jubilee as several other people commented that they liked it. Conversation with Caroline McHardy indicated that the trees along the riverside opposite the new houses will be planted this year. It appears that the fencing has not stopped vandalism / litter. We will monitor and photograph for a period.

The Local Plan progress is becoming uncertain. The Government paper "Fixing our broken housing market" contains different criteria for assessing housing needs to those on which Local Plan numbers are based. The General Election will delay all of these processes and has also delayed the decision on

Unitary Authority boundaries for Bucks for at least 6 months.

Criticism of the Heathrow expansion plan are being articulated and it is very clear that flight volumes over Taplow will increase significantly. Much discussion on the meaning of peak and average noise levels. Roger will include comment on this in a members email.

- **VILLAGE GREEN PARTY**

Al has advised that the meat is ordered. A query as to whether we are back to our original caller, who was unable to attend last year. Roger confirmed we have the event licence (limit of 499 attendees). and was awaiting response from St J Ambulance. The risk assessment form used for both StJA and the Parish Council indicates 300 attendees, which should be the initial limit for the online ticketing. The management of ticketing / wristbands and food vouchers was discussed and agreed. Attendees present their ticket to the Society desk to obtain a wristband (to show support for the event and that they have paid) and a food voucher for complimentary food. Desk will also offer second servings at £2 if available. Miv said that they are using plastic tokens for the Taplow Ball that might be suitable for the VGP.

Taplow Football Club (this year's raffle) are having an event on 21st May which might be an opportunity for ticket sales and recruitment.

- **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Charlie was congratulated on a very successful event, with thanks also to Sheila for use of the lovely grounds. Some 40 children and 60 adults had a great time, with excellent cakes and coffee as well as the eggs. Nice to see earlier year children coming back as teenagers and helping the younger ones. We took £292 in tickets for costs of £125. The successful online presales of tickets made provisioning much easier for Charlie. Some attention next year may be needed to ensure some priority for member bookings.

- **TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

Zoe reported that the archive of the old website is now available on the new site and that online banking and online ticketing are all well in hand, with improved subscription handling being looked at. Pages would be created for the VGP and the Easter Egg Hunt. Pre-sales of tickets for events may need us to develop a refund policy.

- **AOB**

- The May meeting will be moved from the 15th to the 22nd
- Zoe advised that the projected Spring Clean Up is delayed because of a clash with the Junior Regatta.
- Eva reported on progress with the Lincoln Lee memorial bench for the OPG. The bench has been identified and inscription agreed.

“In Memory of Helen and Linc Lee who loved Taplow”

Delivery and installation will be managed by THRGA (Miv). The committee authorised payment to be made from the moneys held for this purpose. £1096.

- The Parish Council has received a support request from MIND for a fund raising run in Hyde Park at which they aim to have representatives from all River Thames parishes. Will be advised to members in an email. Target is a Guinness Book of World Records with over 200 people running 5km holding hands.

Meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Next HTS Committee Meeting: 22nd May.