

HITCHAM & TAPLOW SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting Taplow House Hotel Monday 16th April 2018 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present:

Eva Lipman (chair)
Nigel Smales
Roger Worthington
Al Hill
(Andrew Findlay)

Charlie Greeves
Louise Symons
Robert Harrap
Rupert Sellers

Apologies:

Robert Hanbury

- **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the March meeting were agreed and signed

- **TREASURER'S REPORT**

In the absence of Robert, Roger advised that balances stood at £3826.61 and £1576.83. A revised insurance quote of £283 up from £259 has been received but action awaits Robert's return.

- **NEWSLETTER.**

Nigel advised that a draft pdf had been received from Andrew Findlay. Will need last minute tweaks to the editorial but otherwise good. Awaiting Recruitment insert to proceed to printers.

Extensive discussion then followed on the recruitment insert. Andrew had made strong comments on the draft he had been asked to layout. Accordingly he was invited to the meeting to discuss.

Conclusion was that the four pager did not work as an advertisement to join. Much of its content would be better placed on the web site as reference material. Andrew offered a single A4 page layout with much reduced content. It was agreed that we would proceed with this with some agreed changes to produce a single A4 page manually inserted into the Newsletter. A second A5 insert would be made for the VGP flyer. Both of these flyers would carry QR codes produced by Andrew to allow a more technically savvy audience to click directly to relevant web pages without having to key in web addresses. Roger would pass the VGP flyer to Andrew for the addition of the QR.

- **PLANNING**

Draft objections were circulated for three applications of concern:

18/00456/FUL Ellington Gardens

Overdevelopment in TRCA

18/00507/FUL Roots Smallholding

Anticipates Green Belt status change and blocks possibility of station parking development

18/00317/FUL Dunloe Lodge

Part of the general problem of Berkeley Homes pushing the boundaries of the SPD.

It was agreed to proceed with these objections and committee members were asked to write individually to reach the count of 10 objections.

An application to remove protected trees at the station had been rejected. This is part of the process to build the new footbridge. However Network Rail have ignored the new possibility that the new bridge can now go where the old one was. A meeting is being arranged with them.

Unitary Authorities

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has declared he is in favour of a single UA for Buckingham. Committee view was that this is a very bad approach and we should write in support of the two UAs.

- **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Income from tickets was £180.32. Charlie said costs were £88 which she would pass to the treasurer.

- **VGP**

Roger confirmed that the Cricket Club had accepted the offer to run the raffle.

Al raised questions about the state of trestles. Ownership of the existing ones is unclear and they are used by various groups as a public good. Al would get some ball park costs for 4 new ones. Roger would raise with TPC as to any possible funding.

There was a request from the Church/School/Playgroup fete to borrow various kit. The tent was not available as already promised to the Cedar Chase roast but other kit could be borrowed. The question of damage cover was raised as HTS (and probably the fete organisers) doesn't have assets insurance.

- **AOB**

The meeting recorded its thanks to Andrew for his very positive contribution. He was asked if he was willing to be co-opted onto the committee and agreed to this.

Louise raised a concern that the river bank below the Jubilee housing has not been replanted as was expected but appears to have been colonised by Berkeley Homes with gates to the houses and hedges running right down to the river. The Environment Agency should be approached for their position.

Nigel raised the suggestion that a litter picking (especially plastic!) day might be organised. View was that it was a good idea but nobody volunteered to lead.

HTS will have to review its processes in the light of the GDPR regulations coming into effect in May.

Roger cautioned against the tendency to "reply all" indiscriminately on emails where a much narrower circulation would be better.

Meeting closed at 10:20pm.

Next HTS Committee Meeting: May 14th

SIGNED:.....