

HITCHAM & TAPLOW SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting Taplow House Hotel Monday 18th March 2019 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present:

Roger Worthington (chair) Jonathan Specktor
Nigel Smales Andrew Findlay
Jacqueline Turner Charlie Greeves
Louise Symons

Apologies:

Robert Hanbury
Robert Harrap
Eva Lipman
Rupert Sellers

1) ATTENDANCE

As above

2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the February meeting were agreed and signed.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Balances as at 18th March were: Current £5,909.29, Premium £483.02, Cash £0. Roger had drafted further standard letters for late subscribers but this was held over until Robert Hanbury was present. Jacqueline had another member form for an SO but as it was a photocopy it was thought the bank would need the original.

4) NEWSLETTER

Nigel confirmed that most items were on track. Some items may well change nearer time. First deadline for copy remains end March but with a target publication date of 3rd May there is some flexibility up to 17th April. Print run of 275 agreed subject to a check on membership and complimentary copies.

5) PLANNING

A telecoms mast at Berry Hill Farm application has gone to appeal after rejection.

A Ye Meads micro-brewery license application will cause parking problems and distress to residents if approved.

Cliveden Stud House is the subject of an application to remove restricting covenants on the grounds that they have not been enforced for at least ten years.

No 1 Stockwells has applied to build another house adjacent to it, projecting out towards Berry Hill. Grossly intrusive and parking concerns. We will object.

The Old Boathouse site application from Gage Properties was extensively discussed. We have previously objected on the basis that no attention was given to the moorings and other river businesses by SBDC. In reality that concern is outwith the scope of the application and would be ignored. Our intention was not to ban the application itself but to raise SBDC awareness of the need for them to recognise overall responsibility for the continuation of river activities in Mill Lane. Objections have now been raised by the Conservation Officer and Historic England aimed at preserving the Old Boathouse, Driftwood Cottage and the Studio. If successful the committee believed that preserving these three buildings would cast a serious blight over development of the site. As permission is already extant for 18 tiny apartments in the existing buildings, which would be extremely unsatisfactory we concluded that the present application is in broad terms the best option. We therefore decided to write to SBDC withdrawing our previous comments and outline the sense of this discussion.

Unitary Council for Bucks update

SBDC, CDC and WDC have funded a legal appeal against the government decision.

A shadow executive is to be formed to drive the merger: 8 BCC members, 8 DC members and a casting vote from BCC leader.

Some informal consultations are being driven through BMKALC. We will receive an update on this from an SBALC meeting later this month.

The core proposal is for a series of community boards that will include town / parish councillors as well as Unitary cllrs but only the Unitary Cllrs can vote. Sounds a bureaucratic nightmare overhead.

6) Neighbourhood and Local Plans

TPC has determined to restart the NP effort and Martin Maund (EDRA) has agreed to lead the effort. Both Roger Worthington and Nigel Smales will be involved.

The Local Plan is still scheduled for May release. Disturbingly we are told it will include the removal from the Green Belt of many areas not covered by the earlier GB consultations. This is in the name of "tidying up and proofing against changes to the NPPF". It is believed to include Taplow Riverside. There is some detail on the SBDC web but designed to be impenetrable.

7) EASTER EGG HUNT

Ticket agreed at £4 for all. Roger and Jacqueline will set up Eventbrite ticketing.

8) WW2 WAR MEMORIAL

Adrian's advice is that all names won't quite fit in the existing style. Suggestion agreed that we would look at going with one initial and surname for all. Will check with Adrian and discuss / agree with TPC.

9) SPRING LITTER PICK

Jacqueline was liaising with the Parish Clerk and has booked the hall for Sunday 7th April. Poster has been put on several Taplow web sites and will be on a members email shortly. More mugs / tea pots needed. Roger will check with Parish Clerk and SGI if needed. Roger would try to connect Jacqueline to Taplow Nextdoor.

10) AOB

A members email was agreed to be sent to include:

Promotion of the Litter Pick, Urge members to respond to the Berkeley Homes Bridge naming competition, announce the Easter Egg Hunt, reminder of Nigel's talk on Taplow Court.

Meeting closed at 10pm. Next HTS Meeting: 15th April 8pm Taplow House Hotel

SIGNED:.....