

HITCHAM & TAPLOW SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting on ZOOM Monday 14th June 2021 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present:

Eva Lipman (chair)
Jonathan Specktor
Jacqueline Turner
Andrew Findlay

Roger Worthington
Nigel Smales
Rupert Sellers

Apologies:

Robert Harrap

1) **ATTENDANCE**

As above

2) **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the May 2021 minutes were agreed and signed. Erroneous date for this meeting noted.

3) **MATTERS ARISING**

Nothing not covered in the agenda

4) **TREASURER'S REPORT**

In the absence of Robert Hanbury, Roger confirmed bank balances as: £8,744.72 and £484.14.

5) **NEWSLETTER**

a. Articles

All were exhorted to take seriously the writing or procuring of articles to ensure that we still produce an issue in the autumn time frame. Current suggestions include:

Editorial, Planning update, The amphibious cars trip on the Thames, the Elysium kayak event, a note of Nigel's time as editor, River Road subsidence, the Jubilee bridge failure, the loss of the VGP, the new Parish Council clerk (Ruth Senior, replacing Hilda Holder after 10 years), Mark Bradshaw moving on from Cliveden NT.

b. Management

Andrew would set up a Google docs accessible structure into which articles, drafts and status etc. can be easily dropped and updated.

6) **PLANNING**

a. Updates

The small extension at Wellbank Cottage is approved.

The application for a new house at Green Springs Marsh Lane is rejected. The officer report is a fine example of just how detailed a rejection can be.

The application to build an executive mansion at Larchwood House (aka cedar Cottage) was withdrawn.

Taplow House Hotel has had approval for various internal works

Network Rail has withdrawn its application to repair the Brunel Bridge

b. New

Downlands Barn on Hitcham Lane has applied for conversion to residential. This type of conversion is now generally permitted.

Victoria Cottage in the High Street has applied for extension and hedge removal. We will raise an objection.

Maryfield in the High Street is for sale at £5.5m.

Other

Our MP Joy Morrissey is objecting to the government proposals to extend Permitted Development Rights to a wide range of business types for conversion to residential. She has also committed to pass on to government our support for the LGBC (London Green Belt Council) recent letter.

7) WW2 MEMORIAL

Adrian had indicated that he expected to have sketches for us by mid-June but we have not yet seen them. Will leave a short while before chasing.

8) TIDY UP TAPLOW.

Jacqueline reported that the event had gone well. Bucks County had liberally supplied pickers, hoops and bags. The ordered HTS HiVis jackets had arrived and been well received. Some 15-20 pickers had worked well. Numbers were a little down but Jacqueline thought some of this was due to not having widely circulated a poster as in previous years. This was influenced by the general lockdown state of affairs. She and Mike were thanked for an excellent effort.

9) MAMMOTH FILMS DONATION USES?

Eva advised that she had found several excellent entertainers (magicians / conjurers) who could support the VGP (typical cost £250 for two hours). However rendered null by next item.

10) VGP

As feared, the government has delayed the end of lockdown until July 19th. Sadly it was decided that it would be inappropriate to hold the VGP on July 3rd and members would be so advised. Rupert would advise Mike Sanderson to this effect. There was discussion as to whether Mike should be offered an honorarium as last year. Decision was that it was not needed but Rupert was empowered to decide during his conversation with Mike. He reported later that it was not raised as any sort of issue. Thought could be given to the possibility of running a somewhat different event later in the year. The marquee is still at the Oak and Saw. View was it could remain there for some time, at least until needed for the Cedar Chase event or other HTS need. Nigel would discuss with Ian.

11) RIGHTS OF WAY

Andrew thought that the only path of interest to activate would be one from the village to the station across quarry land. However this would be better progressed by direct approach to Summerleaze, probably in support of a Parish Council approach. No further actions planned.

12) AOB

There is a general problem that litter bins are frequently overflowing, although Council are usually responsive to reports. Some of the problems are due to animal predation scattering contents. Animal proof bins? One of the River Road bins is rusting through, Roger would follow up with the council. The signage put up on the closed Jubilee Bridge has been vandalised. It was put up by Andrew to explain the problems, hopefully to discourage the sillier activities. He would replace the signage.

Meeting closed at 9pm.

Next committee meeting: September 13th 8pm. Will continue on ZOOM but review as government guidance changes.

SIGNED:.....