

HITCHAM & TAPLOW SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting Larkspur House, Mill Lane Monday 14th April 2025 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present:

Roger Worthington
Mike Turner
Rupert Sellers
Charlie Greeves
Eva Lipman

Andrew Findlay
Jane Curry

Apologies:

Robert Harrap
Cat Howard
Jacqueline Turner

This was a single-item agenda meeting to check readiness for the Village Green Party (VGP).

1) Village Green Party (VGP)

a) Printing

- i) The flyer is ready, prepared by Andrew
- ii) With the price of beef, do we keep ticket price the same ? Yes – HTS £6, non-members £8, on the day £10
- iii) Look at laminating costs for posters – print 25. 300 flyers.
- iv) Printing should be ready in a week
- v) Post Meeting Update (PMU): AF sent off flyers and front-laminated posters order on 15/4/25, expected this week.

b) Meat & vegetarian / vegan alternative

- i) AF to order meat from A&B Butchers. AF to start conversation PDQ to confirm date and get price estimate (they forgot the order last year). 55-60Kg top bit. 53Kg last year.
 - ii) AF & JC to take spit to butchers during the week leading up to the event.
 - iii) Need to co-ordinate with Taplow Court for them to receive the meat on the Friday and for someone to retrieve it before 6:00 on the Saturday– Sue Thornton is the main liaison with Taplow Court.
 - iv) Over-provided with sausages and burgers last year – 100 burgers & 9 packs of sausages (150?); this was, surprisingly, way over. Many youngsters ate beef last year. Order 75 burgers & the same number of sausages this year.
 - v) Portabello mushrooms sprinkled with cheese as veggie option with hot and sweet jalapeno relish. Oil used not butter/marg. Vegan option is without cheese. 48 mushrooms last year – keep the same this year. CG to source.
 - vi) Meat costs last year were £441.95 for beef top bit, £110 for burgers and £94.68 for sausages..
- c) Buns – Robinsons, packs of 12 are best – CG to get from Costco. Will check on next run to Costco to see what is available.
- d) Band - Mike Sanderson to be confirmed by RS – Mike agreed last year to do 2025.
- e) RS to contact Cliff, estate manager at Taplow Court , re oil drum barbecues – Taplow Court planning to refurbish and drill holes in base, before VGP. Veggie barbecue is in the Barn – clean & ready to go.
- f) RS to order rubbish bins. Also check removal timescale (TuT bags still around after a week)
- g) First Aid – Paul Holt can no longer do it. Any ideas? Paid Paul £75 last year. AF asked how about someone gong on the First Aid course? RW said St John’s staff are very expensive. Do we need a first aider? Insurance? License? Scouts? Something definitely required. **Needs sorting.**

- h) CH is managing the rota for the day and the clear-up team.
- i) Mark Boden (electrics) not around. He has written a spec. for what needs doing. Do we need a “qualified” person? MT qualified to do PAT testing. RS to check whether rope for stringing electrics high up is in the barn. MT happy to do electrics if no legal requirement for “qualification”. RS to check requirements.
- j) Charity for 2025 – TVAP – RW started talking to them. May not make as much as last year. Nominated charity organise everything including prizes.
- k) Should there be a drone video? AF says qualified drone operator needed. What would we do with video? Tim Browning may be a qualified operator – RS will contact Tim. Privacy invasion concerns?
- l) Do we have enough condiments in barn? RS to check quantities and sell-buy dates
- m) OK for bunting, gazebos, band tent
- n) AF & JC may not be around to start beef. MT could do fire but not beef. Needs collecting from Taplow Court on Saturday morning – estate car. Need to be able to lift ~80kg with 2 people.
- o) MT to man ticket desk at the event. RS has blue tokens.
- p) Check ticket wording. Agreed by RS. No separate kids tickets. Words about responsibility for kids on back of tickets. Web site has all the right wording. Tickets to be on sale from 21st April – available until June 20th.
- q) Fire monitor – Nicki & Paul Jeffries have provided hosepipe in the past. There has been guidance against fires recently because of the very dry conditions. Need to monitor nearer the time. Very difficult to mitigate against fire ban.
- r) MT to organise cash float and pay band cash.
- s) MT has insurance sorted – ~£250 - covers any event we do.

2) TREASURER’S REPORT

At 31/3/2025, balances are £9,000 in the Charity Bank notice account and £2443.10 in the Community account. £495 is being held in cash.

3) NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is almost ready to go. Should be able to print this week or early next. (PMU: Newsletter sent to printer 15/4/25; expected this week).

4) AGM Minutes

Completed by JC and agreed by RW. Put on the website, copy committee – labelled as draft. (PMU: AGM minutes, Chairman’s report & Treasurer’s report all uploaded to website)

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm. Next meeting 19th May 7:30 Larkspur House. (JC & AF tender apologies).

SIGNED:.....