

The Wincheap Society

Minutes of The Wincheap Society Committee Meeting at 7.30p.m. on Thursday, 3rd October, 2013, at The Wincheap Guest House (Thanks to Joe)

Present: John Osborne, Joe Passey, Eddie Peake, Sarah Walter, Pat Marsh

1. Apologies for absence: Gaurav Kathuria, Paula Spencer, Debra Johnson

2. Minutes of the last Meeting on 22nd August, 2013

The Minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising

i. Electoral Review Consultation

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has decided Canterbury City councillors can be reduced from 50 to 38. There is now a consultation on how to redesign wards to accommodate this. It can be accessed at www.lgbce.org.uk and closes on 10th December. There is a meeting at the Guildhall on Monday, 21st October at 7pm to discuss this issue. ACRA will complain to the LGBCE about the lack of a proper governance review before the application for a reduction in the number of councilors was submitted.

ii. Draft Local Plan

Our submission to the consultation was made on time. ACRA will try to get an extension of the consultation period on the grounds that key Council Strategies were not drawn up before the Local Plan submissions had to be in.

iii. Pentland Homes

John wrote to the South Canterbury Residents' Association about making greater use of the Localism Act involving consultation of local residents about new housing developments. A meeting had been arranged with Pentland Homes representatives about their proposed development in Thanington but they cancelled it. We will get in touch again to preempt any suggestion they might make that locals have not engaged with them.

However, the same arguments apply to the Thanington development as to South Canterbury: a likely high proportion of homeowners needing to commute to London every weekday and driving to the West Station. This

would obviously add to the already considerable problems of traffic congestion and bad air quality in the city.

Action: John

iv. Hambrook Marshes

Michael Rundell sent us a report on the meeting on 27th September about the sale of the Marshes. Neither of two offers which had been made have gone through, but now a lady philanthropist is interested in buying the land and keeping it for public access. KCC are moving to make the cycle path a public right of way. If the new offer fails, a community bid will be organised by the Friends of Hambrook Marshes.

v. Jubilee Hall

Debra has been in contact with the owner of the Printing House to lease part of it for £500 p.m. Under this contract he would build toilets and changing rooms.

Jubilee Hall has a one-year extension before closure but will probably be demolished with the old AdScene building to build a new route through the industrial estate for the A28 within 5 years.

We understand that CCC will under no circumstances pay for a new tunnel under the railway joining up with St Andrew's Close to take the road out onto the ring road; the estate developer would have to pay for this feature.

vi. Walking Bus

John has so far not managed to make contact with Wincheap Primary School on this matter.

Action: John

vii. Review of Public Open Space

This meeting will take place on Tuesday, 22nd October at 7pm at the Guildhall. John has applied for tickets but not yet heard whether we will receive any. Gaps in amenity and open space provision in Wincheap and in new developments will be discussed.

vii. Beech Tree

The replacement sapling is looking very sick. John emailed Aidan Potts (Estates) about it and was informed that the land is actually the property of Canon Appleton Court. KCC planted a new tree as a gesture of good will. Sarah is of the opinion that the sapling just needs serious watering.

4. City Church Planning Application

CCC gave City Church permission to buy the AdScene site but then withdrew it. The City Church had already spent £180,000 on plans for its redevelopment.

5. Obituaries

Don Beerling, local personality, owner of Dominican Priory; Irene Card of Carena Guest House, who won the Flowers in Bloom competition every year with her displays; Sir David Frost, TV personality; David Jacobs, radio presenter; Seamus Heaney, Irish poet & Nobel Prize winner; Roger LaVern, keyboard player of The Tornados; Cliff Morgan, rugby player; Mike Winters, comedian; Ronald Coase, economist; Marcella Hazan, Italian cookery writer; Brian Sollitt, chocolatier and inventor of After Eight Mints; Ray Dolby, inventor of the Dolby noise reduction system; Tom Clancy, novelist (author of The Hunt for Red October)

6. Any other business

- i. Cycling on pavements: John has asked the police for the results of their monitoring after six months, as promised (how many warnings, cautions, prosecutions, etc). They are looking into the matter with our local PCSOs.
- ii. John will ask for an update on progress on the Roger Britton site.
Action: John
- iii. There is a new sign for American golf on the Cow Lane corner, as well as some offensive graffiti in Biggelswade Passage. John has informed CCC.
- iv. Joe has been in touch with Network Rail in Hull about painting the bridge. They have said it should take place within 3 weeks.
- v. Bins are being left out on the street all the time on Wincheap and there are problems with rubbish on pavements on York Road & Martyrs Field Road. Sarah will call Serco about these issues.
Action: Sarah
- vi. Sarah might not be able to come to some meetings for health reasons over the winter.
Action: Sarah
- vii. James Willmot, owner of Yamaha Music School, would like to join the committee. He will be invited to come along next time.
Action: Sarah
- viii. Committee members looked at a copy of the St Michael's Road Area Residents' Association welcome booklet for new residents (mainly aimed

at HMOs). We could use it as a template for a WinSoc one, probably having the cooperation of local shops for financing it. Sarah will try to come up with a leaflet for Wincheap.

Action: Sarah

- ix. Sarah will contact Andrew Heenan of Neighbourhood Watch again and invite him to a meeting.

Action: Sarah

- x. We will ask Ena to return to the committee. Joe or Sarah will sound her out.

Action: Sarah/Joe

- 7. Date of next Meeting

Thursday, 14th November at 7.30pm at 53 Wincheap (thanks to John)