

The Wincheap Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of The Wincheap Society at 7.30p.m. on Thursday, 16th January, 2014 at The Wincheap Guest House

Present: John Osborne, Joe Passey, Anne Foster, Spencer Hollands, Pat Marsh, Debra Johnson

1. Apologies for absence: Eddie Peake, Paula Spencer, Sarah Walter, Gaurav Kathuria, James Wilford

2. Minutes of the last Meeting 14th November, 2013

The Minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising

i. Hambrook Marshes

The sale is progressing to the anonymous lady philanthropist, who will be preserving public access.

ii. Roger Britton Site

The developers have planning permission but are still waiting for approval of amended plans.

iii. Homersham Trees / Hop Garden Way

No news. As the sponsoring group, we are waiting for a cheque to arrive to plant new trees. Martin Vye has money for resurfacing Hop Garden Way and we hope local residents will join us in pruning overhanging trees and bushes.

iv. Canon Appleton Court Tree Stump

John has found the name of the artist who does wood carving. He will contact Canon Appleton Court to see what their views are on installing a bench and /or tree sculpture.

Action: John

v. ACRA Meeting 19th November, 2013

Pat wasn't well and couldn't attend but Michael Rundell sent a short report. The meeting was short and sweet. The purpose, mainly, was to formally set up ACRA, with constitution, officers etc. (Michael is going

to be sharing the Secretary role with David Kemsley, which means they can rotate minute-taking duties.)

The main upshot from WinSoc's point of view is that participating residents' associations will need to pay a sub of £20.00 per calendar year (starting in Jan 2014).

4. Planning Application – Demolition of Redundant Gasholder CA//13/02225/DEM - Simmonds Road

This planning application was announced in the newspaper on 5th December, with a deadline of 6th January for comments. On 19th December John looked on the website and found that representations had closed the previous day. When he phoned the Council, he was told a decision had already been made to demolish the gasholder without discussion. Demolition will begin in April and end in October.

When consulted, Cllr Nick Eden-Green said the structure wouldn't get planning permission today and therefore didn't need a formal decision for its demolition.

Opinions on the desirability of retaining the gasholder were mixed on the Committee, but all agreed the normal planning procedure was not followed and the consultation period not respected. We will be challenging the Council on this matter.

Action: Spencer

5. Membership / AGM Plans

The AGM should take place in May and we should try to encourage membership for that. One idea is to produce flyers about joining WinSoc and give a donation to the Scouts to deliver them. It would be good to have another speaker on the history of Wincheap at the AGM. Friday would be the best day (16th or 23rd).

Action on Jubilee Hall booking: John

Action on finding a speaker: All

6. Obituaries

Nelson Mandela, Nobel Peace Prize-winning President of South Africa 1994-99; Doris Lessing, Nobel Prize in Literature-winning writer; John Fortune, satirist; Simon Hoggart, broadcaster and sketchwriter for The Guardian; Sir John Zochonis, philanthropist; Joan Fontaine, Oscar-winning actress; Peter O'Toole, stage and film actor; Mikhail Kalashnikov, inventor of the AK74 rifle; David Coleman, sports broadcaster; Phil Everley of The Everley Brothers; Ray Gosling, radio presenter; Lewis Collins, Brodie in *The Professionals*; Elizabeth Jane Howard, author of The Cazalet Chronicles; Roger Lloyd-Pack (Trigger in *Only Fools and Horses* and Owen in *The Vicar of Dibley*); Ariel Sharon, former Prime Minister of Israel; Noel Woodall, The Father of Autonomerology; Ronnie Biggs, train robber; Leo Cooper, publisher and husband of Jilly Cooper.

7. Any other business

- i. Debra is thinking of having a Quiz Evening for the Dance School to raise funds for moving. We could have a WinSoc team and use the opportunity to hand out flyers for the Society, inviting people to join.

There is no news about when the refurbishment of the Adscene building will be ready.

- ii. The Local Plan is coming up for the second stage of public consultation.
- iii. Canterbury Alliance for Sustainable Transport (CAST) have been working with KCC, CCC and the KM Charity Team and the KM Group to launch a Walk to School pilot for Canterbury on 14th February. They are calling this Green Footsteps and it will be a three-year programme for all the urban primary schools, increasing its sustainable credentials year on year.

However, we understand that Wincheap Primary is not interested in taking part in the new scheme. Considering the representations we had at our AGM on dealing with the terrible congestion around the school when children are being dropped off and picked up by car, we will talk to the Head about encouraging car users to consider the new scheme for children to walk to school together.

Action: Pat

8. Date of next Meeting

Thursday, 20th February 2014 at 7.30pm at 53, Wincheap (thanks to John)