

The Wincheap Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of The Wincheap Society at 7.30p.m. on Thursday, 15th May, 2014 at 53, Wincheap

Present: John Osborne, Eddie Peake, Pat Marsh, Anne Foster

1. Apologies for absence: Sarah Walter, Joe Passey, Gaurav Kathuria, Spencer Hollands, James Wilford, Paula Spencer, Debra Johnson

2. Minutes of the last Meeting 10th April, 2014

The Minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising

i. Canon Appleton Court

John and the Supervisor decided it was best not to go ahead with a carved seat around the tree stump, owing to the fact that young people already congregate there at night and can cause a disturbance. A seat would encourage this.

The Supervisor is waiting for the stump to rot a little more before hollowing it out and turning it into a planter. John offered WinSoc support for this, saying we could provide plants, etc.

ii. Gas Holder

There is a new planning application out to demolish the gas holder (CA//14/00757/DEM). The deadline for comments is 6th June. As opinions of WinSoc committee members are divided on wishing to preserve the holder, we will not be submitting any comments. John will submit his as a private individual.

iii. A.G.M. (see later)

iv. NGDS Wine and Wisdom

The WinSoc team achieved fourth place, in spite of receiving nuls points on the sports round.

4. A.G.M. – final arrangements

John has done a draft agenda and written the Chairman's Report, which he read. The Committee had no additions to the report

Eddie gave us the basics of this year's Financial Statement, which includes a grant for Hop Garden Way resurfacing. Outstanding subs to various organisations will amount to around £65.

The speaker has been confirmed as Viv Woods, author of *Wincheap Untold - Between*

the Two Bridges. She will talk informally about her memories of the Wincheap where she grew up, aided by other residents of long standing.

Sarah and Joe will provide nibbles and John has booked the wine glasses. Anne has the raffle in hand.

5. A.C.R.A. Meeting 5th June 2014 at Ashford Rd Community Centre Re Local Plan

Council officers will be at the meeting to answer questions on the Transport Strategy and Local Plan. Michael and Pat will attend and have asked for questions to put at the meeting. The following questions were proposed:

- i. How will the flow of traffic be improved by having a new slip road off the A2? The whole idea of not having a slip road off the A2 was to avoid congestion.
- ii. Having a one-way system up Wincheap for outbound traffic and diverting inbound traffic via the Wincheap Industrial Estate will not solve the problem of the bottleneck under the railway bridge and at the Rheims Way roundabout. Even if traffic has right of way at the end of Simmonds Road, there will still be buses and large vehicles holding up traffic coming the other way when swinging out into Wincheap. The only way to solve the existing bottleneck is to have a new tunnel under the railway line for traffic coming from the Industrial Estate onto Rheims Way. The cost of this was declared prohibitive by a previous developer but it must be reconsidered.
- iii. The problem of pedestrians crossing Wincheap at the roundabout exit into Wincheap must be solved. The best solution would clearly be the extension of the subway under Wincheap.

Upper Thanington – Pat will check if the new draft plan has any housing there.

6. Obituaries

Sue Townsend, author of Adrian Mole books; Derek Cooper, journalist, presenter of The Food Programme; Mark Shand, conservationist and travel writer; Elena Baltacha, former British Number One tennis player; Antony Hopkins, British composer and broadcaster; Leslie Thomas, author of *The Virgin Soldiers*; Efrem Zimbalist Jr, star of *77 Sunset Strip*; Professor Colin Pillinger, planetary scientist, driving force behind Britain's Mars Lander Beagle 2

7. Any other business

None.

8. Date of next Meeting

Thursday, 26th June at 7.30pm at 53, Wincheap