

The Wincheap Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of The Wincheap Society at 7.30 pm on Monday, 13th November, 2017 at 18, Martyrs Field Rd

Present: John Osborne (Chairman), Barney Parsons, Pat Marsh, Ed Craven, Nick Eden-Green

1. Apologies for absence: Eddie Peake, Gillian Bull
2. The Minutes of the last Meeting 2nd October, 2017

Pat will correct Item 3.1 – Rebecca *Booth* not Jones. Otherwise, the minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising
 - i. Playground – any further news

The Council's Aidan Potts has responded to our comments about Birch Road Park as follows:

“The access has always been there. We put the boulders on the other access as it's much more visible and was open too. SERCO have been using the access from day one. It is the only gap we can get the tractor mower in to cut the bulk of the field. We never used the access beyond the bollards as we never had keys. SERCO (contractors) tend to lose keys, locks, etc so we'll either have no access or open access anyway.

It would be difficult if travellers did occupy the area but we'd clear them and the field as we do elsewhere. We're back to that point like Kingsmead Field, do we spend a small fortune on a what-if basis?”

As for the Wincheap Playground, some resurfacing has been done but is not finished. Ed may write to the Council about it if it's not finished soon.

- ii. Slip Road – Policy and Resources

On 4th October the gifting of land owned by Canterbury City Council for the 4th slip road off the A2 onto Wincheap came before the Policy and Resources Committee. The plan for the slip road put before the Committee was the same one as has been much criticised as dangerous and illogical on The Wincheap Society website. In spite of hearing sound reasons for delaying this land transfer until proper plans are in place from Barney Parsons for the Wincheap Society, Graham Page for Thanington Without

Parish Council and Wincheap Ward councillor Nick Eden-Green, it was nodded through by the members of the Committee, with two abstaining. This premature gifting of land may well come back to embarrass councillors when Highways England either totally rejects the plan or requires its extensive alteration. though Highways England has accepted the Safety Audit.

Nick has had a meeting with Ruth Goudie, KCC's Strategic Transportation Planner, going through the absence of plans for both slip roads and of an overall infrastructure plan for the Wincheap area. He hopes to have another meeting to see what progress they are making on it and with the Planning Officer on the Pentland and Quinn sites. Quinn is still awaiting planning permission. The disconnect between the two sites remains a concern as well as the funding for the infrastructure required.

The plans for the slip road for access to the Pentland site have now been presented. It will be lengthened and the northern section will be two-way. The traffic lights will need to give priority to traffic off the A2 to avoid tailback on what is in essence a motorway. This will mean longer waits for traffic on the A28 and hence more air pollution and congestion.

A 64-bed care home employing 64 staff is planned on Cockerling Rd on a vacant site.

iii. Planning Application CA// 17/01263 – 190 Wincheap

A detached property at the rear appears in the amended plans with access through the forecourt. Highways England have raised an objection to this access.

iv. Hop Garden Way

KCC is now getting estimates for resurfacing either side of York Rd and Guildford Rd and the section issuing onto Hollowmede. Chris Maw at Kent Highways is hoping to get additional money to what we hold for the work.

v. Litter Roundtable – local Litter Pick

OHSCA had a litter pick last Saturday and John did the phone box and pillar box with the graffiti wipes. The police are planning to crack down on graffitists. However, the Council has a report saying there are no problems with the Wincheap subway. Nick will be pointing out the flooding when it rains at the next Joint Transportation Board meeting. The Canterbury Area Members' Panel is being asked to vote funding to improve the Wincheap subway (but not the approaches). Nick doesn't think CCC should be bailing out KCC in this way. The subway will just get graffitied again even if it has anti-graffiti paint, as this gets weakened with cleaning. The walls should be tiled as a permanent solution. Although it would be more expensive it would be more cost-effective in the long run. The footbridge also needs work. The map has been

destroyed and the light has gone on the steps down into the Dane John – this is very dangerous.

Pat reported that Network Rail doesn't respond to her emails about licensing us to clean the Wincheap railway bridge. She will write again.

Action: Pat

vi. Former St Mary Bredin School

Two separate planning applications have gone in, one for demolishing the entrance canopy and one for 17 cluster flats for student accommodation and associated amenities. CHDF has objected to the style and size of the buildings and say Historic England should make it a scheduled monument. The mound underneath the building also needs to be preserved. OHSCA also have a document on saving the School with detailed reasons. John has written to both organisations supporting the preservation of the site and will respond to the consultation in this vein and stating there is no need for more student accommodation.

Action: John

4. Planning Application CA//17/O2189 - Captain's Cabin, 19 Wincheap

The old storeroom at the back is going to be converted into a flat. We have no objection. John is going to write to state our position so we are not always seen as NIMBYs.

Action: John

5. 17 Wincheap - Former Christakis Hairdressers

The premises have been converted into two flats with internal alterations and a change of status without permission, despite its listed building status. John will write to CCC about this.

Action: John

6. Obituaries

Rosemary Leach, British stage and film actress (*84, Charing Cross Road*); **Fats Domino**, American pianist and singer-songwriter (*Blueberry Hill, Ain't That A Shame*); **Antonio Carluccio**, Italian chef, restaurateur and food expert; **Derek 'Red Robbo' Robinson**, British Leyland trade union leader; **Anthony Simonds-Gooding**, marketing manager of the Birds Eye brand and later chief executive of British Satellite Broadcasting (approved Heineken's iconic "refreshes the parts" campaign).

7. Any other business

- i. The Wincheap residents' parking scheme is not going ahead owing to poor response to the survey (only 20% of residents) and the fact that only 10% of households replied expressing a desire to have residents' parking. There is a small area, roughly bounded by Wincheap, Tudor Road, Martyrs Field Road and York Road, together with part of Oxford Road, where a higher proportion of survey respondents were in favour of introducing residents' parking, but even in this area less than 20% of households responded to the survey. Elsewhere, the responses were more evenly balanced between those who did and did not want residents' parking to be introduced.

Having discussed the results with the ward councillors, the Council has concluded that it is therefore not possible for them to recommend that the residents' parking scheme is extended because the response does not give them a mandate to impose the costs of residents' parking on all of the residents in the area.

However, Pat's suggestion of having no parking on one side of Martyrs Field Rd has been taken up by Richard Jenkins, Senior Transportation Officer at the Council. In order to implement such a restriction it would be necessary to amend the relevant Traffic Regulation Order – the legal document defining traffic and parking restrictions. Because of the amount of time and cost involved in processing changes to Traffic Regulation Orders, including consultation with residents and councillors, all requests are now considered in an Annual Review. All of the requests received in 2017 will be considered in the 2017 Annual Parking Review. Consultation and, if appropriate, implementation will take place in the first few months of next year. Richard Jenkins will add this proposal to the list for the next Review and inform Pat of the outcome once the Review is complete.

- ii. OHSCA has been given a table of how S106 monies have been used for improvements in their area. Since the Local Plan envisages "pedestrian/cycle links to Castle Street, Canterbury East train station and the City centre" and Richard Moore did like our idea about extending the subway to Station Road East, we should bring this up again and suggest S106 money and an Aldi contribution.

Pat will write to Richard Moore and copy in Ian Brown and Chris Maw (KCC) about this.

Action: Pat

- iii. The University of Kent Vice Chancellor, Prof. Karen Cox, has invited Pat to represent the Wincheap Society at an informal meeting on 11th December to discuss town & gown relations.

9. Date of next Meeting

Monday, 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm at 6 Victoria Rd (thanks to Ed)