

# *The Wincheap Society*

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## **Minutes of the Committee Meeting of The Wincheap Society at 7.30 pm on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 53 Wincheap (thanks to John)**

**Present:** John Osborne (Chairman), Gillian Bull, Barney Parsons, Pat Marsh

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Derek Maslin, Ed Craven

2. Minutes of the last Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019

The minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising

i. Bus Stop

KCC Safety Engineers are considering the proposal.

ii. Website Revamp

Ed Ludlow will undertake this with the same domain name. He runs the Canterbury Society website. He will be able to upload the graphics we can't upload at the moment. The cost for annual maintenance will be £75. Pat will contact Ed and get the website upgraded before she moves. Our current supplier hasn't cashed the cheque for this year and its validity has now expired. He cannot be contacted on his telephone number. John will write to him and say we no longer need his services.

**Action: Pat, John**

iii. Adopt-a-phone-box

John has written to the Council's Listed Buildings site asking how the Wincheap roundabout phone box can be refurbished before we buy it.

iv. Former St Mary Bredin School Appeal

This is being heard on 11th December. Nick is going and speaking as Councillor.

v. New Committee Members

Barney is going to talk to the two people who are interested and we hope they will be able to join the committee after Christmas.

**Action: Barney**

vi. Club Chemistry Lighting and Wincheap Stores

John considers the Club Chemistry lighting too bright. SMACS think it should have gone to the Council for some kind of approval as it's in a conservation area and is inappropriate. They have written two letters about it and Cllr Pat Edwards (Barton)

has also brought it up. Nick contends the lighting is advertising, over which there are strict planning controls, but the Council doesn't accept this, even though the lighting is only on when the Club is open.

John will write a letter to say we are concerned about the nature of the lighting and consider it inappropriate in a conservation area opposite the city wall. He will enquire whether it shouldn't have planning permission.

**Action: John**

Wincheap Stores also has very bright lighting at night but we're not going to raise that with the Council as it's on the main road in an area of retail outlets.

#### vii. Planning Lists

John and Pat are both getting them now. John will look into the proposal for student accommodation on Gordon Road.

**Action: John**

#### 4. Christmas Window Display Competition

Barney showed us the trophy he has had made for the winner this year. He will distribute flyers to all the shops etc. not yet covered by John. John has printed certificates on parchment paper.

#### 5. Park and Ride Extension / Save Wincheap Water Meadows

Pat reported back on a meeting with Colin Carmichael and Richard Moore (CCC Head of Transport & Environment) together with Jan Pahl of The Canterbury Society and Rick Norman of Love Hambrook Marshes. They had set aside an hour and a half for the meeting and it ranged over all the alternative sites for the extension, as well as alternative routes for the slip road to obviate the need for much extension of the Park & Ride. The only options which the Council officers agreed to look into were the ones involving Morrison's car park, which they had not previously considered.

Pat also had an onsite meeting with Anna Firth, Conservative PPC, together with Jan Pahl and Sian Pettman of Love Hambrook Marshes. Cllr Neil Baker was also present. Together they covered all the issues with the extension onto the water meadows and Anna expressed her support. She said she would arrange a meeting with the Leader of the Council and Council officers.

In the meantime, SWWM has been exploring the grounds for a Judicial Review of the planning permission for the extension. They commissioned Richard Buxton Environmental and Public Law solicitors to write to the Council about their failure to do an Environmental Impact Assessment of the site and their treatment of the Environment Agency, which was instructed to withdraw their objections. Nick reported that the Council have rejected Richard Buxton's arguments and that now SWWM would be seeking the solicitors' opinion on whether a Judicial Review would

succeed or not. It is estimated to cost £30,000 and a crowdfunder would be launched to pay for it, perhaps fronted by CPRE.

There will be an event to raise awareness of the plans to build the car park on the water meadows at 12 noon on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December in the city centre. Richard Navarro and friends will be singing the specially composed song and other protest songs. There will also be a stall with fliers.

6. Obituaries - Deaths Recorded Since Our Last Meeting

**Alan Finch**, co-editor, compiler and publisher of The British Postmark Society's catalogue; **Chris**, the Australian sheep, holder of the world record for the heaviest fleece (approx. 90lbs); **Terry O'Neill**, CBE, British photographer; **Frank Dobson**, former Labour MP; **Field Marshall Lord Edwin Bramall**, KG, former Chief of the General Staff; **Jean Fergusson**, British actress, (Marina in *Last of the Summer Wine*); **Brian Mawhinney**, former Conservative Minister and Chairman of the Football League; **Sir Stephen Cleobury**, CBE, former Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge; **Alison Prince**, British children's author (*Trumpton*); **Robert Ponsonby**, former Head of BBC Music and Director of the Edinburgh Festival.

7. Any other business

i. Windows at 190, Wincheap

These have not been done according to the plans. An enforcement notice has gone in on that from the Canterbury Heritage Design Forum.

ii. Canterbury Society 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

There will be a celebration on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 5pm-7pm in the Westgate Hall when this year's Civic Champion will be named.

iii. CCCU Community Liaison Manager

A new one has now been appointed to replace Katie Latchford. Her name is Hannah. She offered to come to a meeting but this isn't considered necessary. We can meet her at the CCCU hustings (see v.)

iv. Greenpeace Quiz

Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at the Kent and Canterbury Club, 17 Old Dover Road, Canterbury. Entry: £5 per person Teams: 4-6 people (or thereabouts) Start: 7pm End: 9.30pm. There is a cash bar but do bring your own snacks.

The Quiz is billed as fiendish. We'll get a team together in January.

v. CCCU Politics Dept Hustings

St Augustine's House Hall on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November from 6.30pm to 8pm (5.30pm drinks).

vi. Canterbury Civic Champion 2019

The Community Magazine has already advertised this although the award will not be announced until Wednesday 27th. This year's winner is Paula Spencer, who has made the Thanington Resource Centre a point of welcome for all the community in Thanington. John will send her our congratulations.

**Action: John**

vii. Transport Forum Meeting - 4<sup>th</sup> November

Nick represented WinSoc. They considered the SWECO report on the ring road and what to do with it as it is at capacity. Two options were presented:

- a) remove the roundabouts on most of the route and put in traffic lights – this would slow the traffic;
- b) put in pedestrian and cycle routes (which would slow it even more from 12 mins to 28 mins to get round it and increase queueing from feeder roads very substantially).

It was concluded that bypass routes for Canterbury should be reconsidered.

viii. Subway tiles

The ones on the city side of the subway were put up when the weather was damp with the wrong mortar. They will be replaced without charge in better weather. The tiles on the other side are also coming off and should be replaced. The lighting has been dark for six weeks and now three out of the four lights are on. The plastic film in the tunnel is damaged in two places. Nick has been trying to get them repaired before they get worse. The drains are still a problem as the soakaway isn't adequate.

8. Date of next Meeting

Monday, 20th January at 7.30pm at 53 Wincheap (thanks to John)