

The Wincheap Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of The Wincheap Society at 7.30 pm on Monday, 2nd March 2020 at 53 Wincheap (thanks to John)

Present: John Osborne (Chairman), Gillian Bull, Cllr Derek Maslin, Barney Parsons

1. Apologies for absence: Ed Craven, Cllr Nick Eden-Green, Pat Marsh
2. Minutes of the last Meeting 27th January 2020

The minutes were signed as a correct account.

3. Matters Arising
 - i. Website Revamp

Barney reported that work is progressing on the revamp. Ed Ludlow has produced a suggested basic framework which can be viewed at:- <https://www.edludlow.co.uk/wincheap/> Please give it a view and report back.

- ii. Adopt-a-phone-box

It was decided to abandon this idea as we have still not heard back from the council regarding ownership and restoration, and also that the box has been further damaged recently, and we could not afford to maintain it if it happened under our watch.

- iii. Former St Mary Bredin School

The developers wasted no time and the building has already been demolished.

- iv. New Committee members – Appeal?

John to ask Pat to send a letter to all members with an urgent request for Committee Members to replace Pat, who is moving; Ed, who is presently indisposed; and Gillian, who is also moving. Without new members it is probable that the Society will have to be wound up.

Action: John, Pat

- v. Park and Ride / Wincheap Water Meadows

The Planning Court has agreed that a Judicial Review (JR) can be brought against the Council on the grounds that they did no Environmental Impact Assessment before drawing up plans to extend the P&R onto the water meadows. Save Wincheap Water Meadows (SWWM) are liaising with CPRE-Kent and Richard Buxton solicitors to establish the likelihood of success and potential costs before going ahead with a JR. £21,000 has already been spent on the initial procedure and the agreement between SWWM and CPRE-Kent is that costs will be shared 50:50. This means SWWM need to raise another £4,000 to cover costs already incurred. Richard Navarro and friends were busking on St Peter's St yesterday to fundraise and they are

also planning a gig at the Westgate Hall or Marlowe in April. The link to the crowdjustice site for donations has been sent to all WinSoc members and others who have taken part in our litter picks. It is <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/wincheap-water-meadows/>

Meanwhile a group of 12 from SWWM represented by Ratty in the press have planted 50 willow whips on the water meadows, 39 of them in a circle to represent the number of Canterbury City Councillors who will be giving the final go-ahead for the extension. In an unusually humorous post, the Council have posted that they will be removing the 39 whips as a matter of principle, as tree-planting on public land must always be co-ordinated with the Council to make sure the right trees are planted and that they will be looked after.

On 13th February the Council announced on their website that they were postponing a final decision on the P&R extension until Highways England and the Thanington developers had finalised the plans for the A2 slip road, which is currently planned to cut through the P&R, thus necessitating the extension. The Council also says they are looking at other sites and appreciate that residents have been putting up large sums of money to fight the extension.

vi. Spring Clean / Litter Pick

Derek is to discuss this with Nick (as he has arranged many litter picks) and he hopes to arrange our Great British Spring Clean Litter Pick for Sunday 5th April, 2020. More news in due course.

Action: Derek, Nick

vii. Canterbury Society Subscription

The address of the Treasurer was given to Barney, who will arrange for a £20.00 cheque to be sent. John outlined events listed in The Canterbury Society Newsletter.

Action: Barney

viii. Jan Pahl

John had sent a letter to Jan thanking her for her 10 year service as Chair of The Canterbury Society. She sent us thanks and wished us continued success. She will remain active with the St Dunstan's Subway project and SWWM.

ix. UoK Community Group

Put on the Agenda in error.

4. New Community Safety Officer

Debbie Heath has been appointed CCC Community Safety Officer and has responsibility for graffiti etc. It was agreed that John would write to her regarding the graffiti on the buttresses of the railway bridge with special mention of the obscene drawing. Mention was made that Cathy Sales had offered to liaise with Network Rail regarding putting an artwork on the bridge.

5. Obituaries

Louise Browne – local Scout supporter and PTA member died from breast cancer far too young; **Nicholas Parsons** – “Just a Minute” presenter and many other talents; **Pearl Carr** – G.B. Eurovision Song Contest entrant (with Teddy Johnson) “Sing Little Birdie”; **Harry Gregg** – survivor and hero of Manchester United air crash.

6. Any other business

- i. Request from Camilla Swire to co-sign letter below:

To the Chief Executive of Canterbury City Council,
Mr. Colin Carmichael

Dear Sir,

Thanington & related housing developments, &c.

Following last week’s coverage in the Kentish Gazette, criticising the manner in which the Pentland development in Thanington is being carried out without timely consultation with & at great inconvenience to the existing local community, we the undersigned believe that it is high time that Canterbury City Council both thinks through & manages the practical, environmental & ecological consequences of the various development schemes that it approves &, indeed, monitors & enforces the satisfaction by developers of the Council’s own Planning Conditions. Failure to do so will only result in further legal actions’ being brought against the Council by organisations & by individuals, actions which will cause delay to the Council’s plans & expense for all parties. As the very recent Heathrow case demonstrates, the tide is turning in favour of plaintiffs’ ability to put the brakes on schemes which have not been planned & approved in accordance with the law. Accordingly, we hope that you & your colleagues will avoid such pitfalls by listening more to what local people have to say & less to developers’ and promoters early undertakings that stand little chance of being adhered to.

Yours faithfully,

This letter has been to and fro being amended and modified. It is now to be discussed further hoping to include more community groups. The TNRC did not wish to put their name to the document (despite agreeing with it) as CCC are their landlords and some of their trustees are council tenants.

- ii. Replacements for Pat

Michael Rundell will remain representing WinSoc to ACRA. No one has been found yet to replace Pat on the Street Marshals Steering Group. David Kemsley suggests the Steering Group inform ACRA of their six-monthly meetings and a South Canterbury RA rep will be found for each meeting.

- iii. Climate Change and Older Buildings

A free event hosted by CPRE Kent. A talk by John Preston, IHBC, Heritage Chair, Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance, On Climate Change and Older Buildings: meeting the Challenges. Derek may be attending.

iv. Date for Extraordinary Meeting

30th March, 2020 at 53 Wincheap, at 7.30pm. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE – HOPE IT'S O.K.

v. 3 – 4 Gordon Road

Planning Application rejected.

vi. Roger Manwood Celebration

An event celebrating the life and times of Roger Manwood at St Stephen's Church on 9th May, 2020. (Contact Barney for more information)

7. Date of next Meeting

27th April, 2020 at 7.30p.m., 53 Wincheap.