



THE WEST CHISWICK & GUNNERSBURY SOCIETY

Residents Meeting – 3rd July, 2017

Held at Age UK Hall, Oxford Road North at 7.30pm

MINUTES

In Attendance:	Marie Rabouhans	(Chairman)
	Adam O'Neill	(Vice Chairman)
	Charlotte Aldridge	(Treasurer)
	Don Osborne	(Secretary)
	Nic Atkinson	(Management Committee)
	Robert Hare	(Management Committee)
	Anna Rumian	(Management Committee)
	Bud Murryweather	(Management Committee)
	Veronica Hunt-Lewis	(Management Committee)

Together with 30 other Members and residents.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed the Members and other residents to this public meeting. Apologies were received from Terry and Sarah Thorn, Ruth Mayorcas, Jane Beeston and Carmen Bailey.

2. Guest Speaker

Stephen Hine, Honorary Secretary of the Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society gave an illustrated talk on the history of brewing in our area. His presentation was warmly applauded by the audience.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the AGM on 6th February, 2017 were accepted as a true record and will be put before the next AGM for approval.

4. Matters Arising

- **Empire House:** No further works are taking place and no information has been forthcoming despite our enquiries.

5. Management Committee: Co-opted Members

Veronica Hunt-Lewis and Bud Murryweather were co-opted to the committee by a show of hands, nem con.

6. Update and Discussion on Current Planning, Development and Infrastructure Issues

- **Brentford Football Stadium:** Construction has started.
- **Chiswick Roundabout:** Following refusal of the “Chiswick Curve” tower and the associated media screens the developer has appealed with respect to the media screens only. This raises questions as to the developer’s intentions; why would he appeal

against the refusal of adverts which are integral to a building and yet not appeal against refusal of the building itself?

- **B&Q site (“Hudson Square”)**

Charlotte Aldridge had attended the developer’s exhibition and workshop. She summarised the proposals which were for an extensive mixed-use development, including three blocks of residential units, commercial uses (hotel and car showroom) and student accommodation. While building heights were not given, it appeared that the scheme was taking its cue from other proposals for very tall buildings in the area such as those for Capital Interchange Way. Issues had been raised about the quantum of development and the site constraints, especially access and pollution. There appeared to be no intention to consider a joint development with the adjoining Chiswick Curve site.

A new exhibition of more detailed proposals will be held in September and an application for planning consent is expected in December. Concerns were expressed from the floor about the apparent lack of infrastructure for the development and the implied assumption that the water supply and sewerage will be able to cope with the demand. Inclusion of affordable housing in a separate block nearest to the North Circular was considered unacceptable. It was noted that a smaller B&Q might take up part of the retail offer within the development.

- **Capital Interchange Way (Bus Garage):**

English Heritage has criticised this scheme. We are concerned that an attempt will be made to justify the harm that such a development would inflict on the local community and the surrounding heritage on the grounds of the public benefit of the bus garage.

- **Capital Interchange Way (Citroen Site)**

The deal between the Council and the developers, L & Q for a new leisure centre to be built on the Citroen site in exchange for the current leisure-centre site, once the new centre had been built has fallen through. No proposals have yet been seen, but L & Q are now proposing to build housing on the Citroen site.

John Aldridge from the floor said our main objective must be to ensure continuity of use of a leisure centre in this locality. There was wide agreement with this view. The Brentford Fountain was a widely used and much needed centre. Members should be active and press our ward councillors to make the case for insisting that a leisure centre must be retained in an acceptable form.

- **250 Gunnersbury Avenue :**

The Society had been supportive of the consented scheme for an 8-storey office building. However, the site had been sold and the new owners, Balfour Beatty were now considering a much taller mixed-use building, consisting mainly of student accommodation. Members of the committee had met with the developers and had explained why they considered such a development unsuitable for this site.

- **632 CHR – Citroen/Peugot Dealership at the Roundabout:**

An application had been submitted to replace the existing 1 to 2-storey dealership with a 4-storey building. It was noted that the site extends along the Chiswick High Road and is close to residential properties and the Wellesley Road Conservation Area. It was felt that the applicant has focussed on achieving “strong visibility from the M4 flyover” to the detriment of other considerations. It was agreed that the following issues should be raised in the Society’s comments:

- a) Height in relation to office building at 630 and gap between them
- b) Materials, signage, lighting, impact on residential properties in Chiswick High Road and Surrey Crescent and on CA
- c) Enforceable Conditions to control intensity and timing of lighting, times and method of vehicle deliveries.

- **Local Plan/Great West Corridor:**

We are awaiting the next round of consultation on the Partial Review for the Great West Corridor. Meanwhile developers are coming forward with proposals in the area, including Power Road, in the absence of a master plan.

- **Gunnersbury Station: Chiswick Business Park**

The legal agreement having finally been signed, the footbridge from the business park to Bollo Lane is now scheduled for completion at the end of 2018. We are hoping that our MP Ruth Cadbury will chair a meeting of the Action Group within the next few weeks.

7. Any Other Business:

The Chairman drew Members’ attention to the progress that is being made on the regeneration of Gunnersbury Park, to the programme of events for the summer and to the beautiful wild-flower meadow that had been planted.

8. Next Meetings

Management Committee: To be advised

Residents’ Meeting Monday, 13th November 2017

Signed by the Chairman:

Date:-----