



THE WEST CHISWICK & GUNNERSBURY SOCIETY

Residents Meeting: 29th October, 2018

MINUTES

In Attendance:	Marie Rabouhans	(Chairman)
	Adam O'Neill	(Vice-Chairman)
	Don Osborne	(Secretary)
	Charlotte Aldridge	(Treasurer)
	Rob Hare	(Webmaster)
	Veronica Hunt-Lewis	(Management Committee)
	Anna Rumian	(Management Committee)
	Terry Thorn	(Management Committee)
	Sarah Thorn	(Management Committee)
	Kate Vicic	(Management Committee)

Together with 25 other Members and Residents.

1. Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were received from Jane Beeston and Cllr Sam Hearn and. The Chairman welcomed Councillors Jo Biddulph and Ron Mushiso (Turnham Green Ward)

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Residents Meeting on 9th July, 2018 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman. *(Note: Please disregard the document distributed at the meeting as it was unfortunately an incomplete draft. The final correct Minutes are those that were published on the Society's website.)*

3. Matters Arising (not elsewhere on the Agenda)

- **Data Protection (Minute 4)**

The Society's data protection policy is now posted on the website and has been accepted by all current Members.

- **Chiswick Curve (Minute 5)**

The Inspector's report is expected to be sent to the Secretary of State by 14th December and the timetable for the Secretary of State's decision will then be set.

- **L&Q Citroen Site**

The Mayor of London has approved the application, but it has been called in by the Secretary of State.

- **Brentford Football Stadium**

The changes to the design and the additional residential units on the Capital Court site have been approved; construction is in progress. Lionel Road South will be closed for some time.

- **Gillian Court**

Both applications had been approved; the developer had indicated that he intends to proceed with that incorporating some of our design recommendations. There is now an additional application to build a house on land at the rear of the site. We are not necessarily averse to this, but the impact on the neighbours must be considered.

- **Bus Routes (Minute 7)**

The proposed re-organisation of local bus routes is still under review by TfL. Some of the relevant factors relate to Crossrail which is delayed for up to a year. TfL was also consulting on a wider review of London bus routes.

- **Local List Nominations (Minute 8)**

It was understood that the Conservation Officers were still reviewing the nominations. *(Post-meeting note: A consultation on a short list of nominations would be carried out shortly.)*

- **Speed Limits on Wellesley Road (Minute 10)**

Since nearly all streets in the area are now restricted to 20 mph, it is not clear to what extent it is intended to provide signs or marking on the individual streets. Enforcement of the speed restrictions is an issue. It was suggested that residents of Wellesley Road could follow the example of those in Stile Hall Gardens who had carried out a survey using a speed gun provided by the Council. The potential closure of Stile Hall Gardens and Wellesley Road to through, west-bound traffic had been subsumed into the CS9 debate. A revised CS9 scheme was expected to be issued by TfL for consultation.

4. Talk by Martin Case of Air Quality Brentford (AQB)

Mr Case gave an illustrated talk about AQB's activities in combatting air pollution in Brentford. In addition to lobbying on issues such as the ULEZ and engaging with schools, AQB had achieved a range of local environmental improvements. Working with informal groups of local residents and businesses they had carried out several planting schemes such as that at Brentford Station. Practical action in greening up plays an important part in their campaign. The relevance of this to our own Green Up Gunnersbury campaign was strikingly obvious. To warm applause from the audience, the Chairman thanked Mr Case and encouraged our Members and residents to visit the AQB website for inspiration and practical ideas.

5. Update on Current Planning Issues

- **1 Arlington Cottages**

We have sent a detailed objection to this proposal to build a three-bedroom house in the garden of this Listed building which would amount to over-development of a small site in the Turnham Green Conservation Area.

- **58B Wellesley Road**

This application to build a glass-fronted office on the roof was called in by Councillor Gill at our request and will be sent to the Chiswick Area forum in November.

- **Citroen-Peugeot Car Showrooms**

The application for signage proposes a forest of 9 tall flagpoles and several totems. We have submitted objections as we consider this to be unwelcome urban clutter at a sensitive site.

- **Land Outside Gunnersbury Station**

An application has been made for a large advertising structure on the small piece of land outside the station. We have objected and a decision is awaited.

- **Gunnersbury Triangle Nature Reserve**

An application has been made to LB Ealing to build an activity (education/visitor) centre financed by several residential flats at the entrance to the nature reserve. After discussion, the consensus was that we would support the application. It was recognized that this was a long-awaited replacement for the small “hut” that had been provided as a temporary measure over 30 years ago. The purpose-built centre would enable London Wildlife Trust and the dedicated volunteers to provide an enhanced experience, especially for the many schools benefiting from visits to the nature reserve. We need to respond to this via the Ealing LB website by November 6th. A link to the application on the Ealing Council website can be found in the relevant item on the ChiswickW4 website.

6. Green Up Gunnersbury Campaign

The Chairman and Treasurer reported on recent action taken by the Committee. Informal meetings had been held to progress the campaign and helpful advice had been provided by Karen Liebreich of Abundance.

Leaflet A leaflet had been produced explaining the broad aims of the campaign with reference to both residential and business contributions. Copies were available at the meeting and it would be available to download from the website. The leaflet would be used when talking to local businesses and Members were encouraged to show it to neighbours (see below).

Resident action: Rather than a formal front garden competition with prizes, everyone was encouraged to improve their garden; nominations could be invited from the residents in each street for the “best garden in street”. We could publish a “Top 10/20”. There could still be a small “children’s prize” to encourage younger residents to get involved. Charlotte and Marie emphasized that we should all act at the local level improving our streets; members should be street champions and initiators, talking to neighbours, telling them about the campaign and getting children involved.

Business action: A meeting had been held with the management of Chiswick Tower with respect to improving the surroundings of the building and nearby public realm. Meetings with other local businesses were being arranged. We need to find small projects and work up to bigger things. It was hoped that a personal approach, supported by the leaflet and website, would be more successful than simply leafletting.

Terry Thorn said that a good place for greening up was Power Road.

- **Street trees on Gunnersbury Avenue:** Now that work on the Power Road Bridge was nearing completion, the Chairman would renew contact with TfL to follow up discussions on replanting the section of Gunnersbury Avenue.

7. Gunnersbury Park

The newly regenerated park now needs to find revenue-generating activities.

There is an application by Go-Ape to construct a rope-way feature on the mature trees in the park. There is a risk of harm to the nature and heritage value of the park. A similar Go-Ape installation is in Battersea Park. It charges £28 per ride, which means it is used mostly for corporate away days rather than by local people. After some discussion, Members endorsed the suggestion that the Chairman should write to the CEO of the community Interest Company (CIC) now responsible for managing the park.

8. Any Other Business

- **Gunnersbury Station.** The much-delayed changes to the platform facilities, including moving the shelter are now scheduled to start in late December. It is understood that the delays have been due partly to TfL's problems with funding. Ruth Mayorcas suggested that a start date in the spring would be better to avoid having no shelter in the winter months., This had been raised at the recent meeting of the Gunnersbury Station Action Group but there was a reluctance to request further delay now that TfL had committed to doing the work.
- **Boarded-up Shops**
Terry Thorn commented on the Government's Budget announcement to extend permitted development to allow the change of use of vacant shops to residential. The Chairman undertook to raise this with the London Forum. We want to keep our High Road as a place of social and commercial resort.

Next Meeting.

AGM on Monday February 4th 2019

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Signed by the Chairman:

Date