



## THE WEST CHISWICK & GUNNERSBURY SOCIETY

www.westchiswickgs.org.uk

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

Held at Age UK Hall, Oxford Road North, Chiswick W4

7.30pm

### MINUTES

*(subject to formal adoption at AGM in 2020)*

#### In Attendance:

Marie Rabouhans	Chairman
Adam O'Neill	Vice Chairman
Don Osborne	Secretary
Charlotte Aldridge	Treasurer
Robert Hare	Webmaster
Terry Thorn	Management Committee
Sarah Thorn	Management committee
Veronica Hunt-Lewis	Management Committee
Kate Vicic	Minute Secretary

Together with 25 other Members and residents

Also in attendance: Councillors Ranjit Gill and Joanne Biddulph

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Marie Rabouhans from the Chair welcomed Members of the Society. Apologies were received from Anna Rumian.

#### 2. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were accepted as a true record and adopted.

3. The Minutes of the public meeting of the Society on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were also approved as a true record.

#### 4. Matters Arising (from the previous public meeting)

- **Gillian Court:** the application for an extra house at the back has been refused. *[Post meeting note: The developer has appealed against this refusal and has also submitted an application for an office building in place of the house.]*
- **Bus routes 27 & 440:** these will both be changed despite public support for them to stay as they are.
- **1 Arlington Cottages:** planning officers were minded to approve the application. Councillor Gill had called it in. It was to be discussed at the Chiswick Area Forum (CAF) on 5<sup>th</sup> February where Marie Rabouhans would present our objections. *[Post meeting note: CAF has referred the application to the Planning Committee.]*

- **58B Wellesley Road:** Cllr Gill had called it in and Charlotte Aldridge had spoken against it at the CAF in November. The application has since been refused by Delegated decision.
- **Land outside Gunnersbury Station:** the application from JC Decaux to install an LED-lit advertising screen has gone to appeal for ‘non-determination’ (out of time).
- **Gunnersbury Triangle:** Ealing has approved the building of a new activity centre for the nature reserve enabled by the addition of nine residential units.
- **Gunnersbury Station:** There is still no progress on the re-positioning of the waiting room. Member Ruth Mayorcas attended a recent drop-in for future plans for the Great West Corridor. She reported that mention had been made of the possibility of a 10-12 storey building near the station to enable improvements to the station. The chairman said that Hermes, the owners of Chiswick Tower had been in discussion with Council officers for some time on this issue. It had been hoped that they might present their current ideas to the Gunnersbury Station Action Team in January but no Hermes participant had been present. Judging any application submitted would be difficult and require a delicate balance. The Society would need to weigh the public benefit of improved access at the station against the harm to local residents of another tall building at this location. e
- **Chiswick Park footbridge:** the new bridge had been officially opened and was apparently reducing footfall at Gunnersbury Station and easing congestion at peak times.. It was also providing a pleasant route from the high street to the nature reserve. The business park is taking responsibility for the upkeep of the bridge, part of which is in LB of Hounslow and part in LB of Ealing.

## 5. Annual Report and Accounts

The Report and Accounts for 2018 were adopted. The Treasurer thanked Richard Vinter and Chris Jenks for their independent examination of the accounts.

## 6. Matters Arising from the Annual Report

- **Chiswick Curve:** The Chairman reported that the Secretary of State will make his decision on the linked Appeals on or before 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- **Local Plan Review/Great West Corridor:** Some committee and other members attended a drop-in session for the Local Plan Review. Considerable development was planned for east Brentford in addition to the consented development around the football stadium. Cllr Biddulph said that reference had been made to a recommendation for a maximum building height of 15 to 16storeys. It was suggested that developers were awaiting the Chiswick Curve decision that might provide a context for higher buildings. The final formal public consultation on the Review would take place in April/May.

## 7. Election of Honorary Officers

The four Honorary Officers having declared themselves willing to stand for re-election and there being no other nominations, their joint re-election was put to a vote of the Members present. These four Honorary Officers were re-elected unopposed as follows:

Chairman	Marie Rabouhans	(Silver Crescent)
Vice Chairman	Adam O'Neill	(Cambridge Road North)
Secretary	Don Osborne	(Arlington Gardens)
Treasurer	Charlotte Aldridge	(Thorney Hedge Road)

## Management Committee

All of the members of the Management Committee except Veronica Hunt-Lewis having indicated their willingness to stand for re-election, they were put jointly to a vote of the Members present. Kate Vicic, a co-opted member, stood for election.

The following Members were elected unopposed to the Management Committee:

Anna Rumian	(Sutton Lane North)
Sally Thorn	(Thorney Hedge Road)
Robert Hare	(Grosvenor Road)
Terry Thorn	(Thorney Hedge Road)
Kate Vicic	(Grosvenor Road)

The Chairman thanked Veronica Hunt-Lewis for her services to the Society.

The Chairman said there are now several vacancies on the committee. Anyone who would like to serve should approach one of the Honorary Officers.

## Development & Planning Policy

Members were encouraged to submit comments on the following applications:

- **1-4 Capital Interchange Way:** There is a new proposal for a large mixed-use development including 420 residential units. The site is constrained by being between the Central Eastern blocks of the Brentford stadium scheme and the L&Q development on the Citroen site. This is another example of large-scale development being proposed in advance of an adopted Local Plan Review. The planning reference number is 01508/1-4/P7.
- **Brentford Football Stadium:** There are proposed changes to the position of the large video screen on the south stand (the highest one). It is proposed to raise its height above the roof level (high enough to be seen from Gunnersbury Park) which would change the roofline and also be seen from new flats. The planning reference number is 00703/A/P21.
- **Duffy site:** Three buildings were originally proposed but one is to be split in two meaning there will be four. This re-arrangement could increase the negative impact on the surroundings including Gunnersbury Park. The revised plans also result in an increase in the total number of units in the overall scheme from 910 (as granted in the Outline Permission) to 1015. The planning reference number is 00703/A/P23.
- **Robins & Day showroom:** A new plan for LED-lit advertising screens on the façade has been submitted. It is not known if the screens, which would replace some of the windows, are for moving or static adverts. It is understood that they **would** be switched off every night at 11pm. It is not known whether other advertisers can rent the screens or if Peugeot Citroen only will use them. The planning reference number is 00248/B/AD20.
- **Chiswick High Road:** The developers of the Carpetright site (396-400 Chiswick High Road) have notified the Society that they will be submitting plans for the site later this month. Cllr Biddulph reported that efforts to let Empire House units for pop-up business have been thwarted by the business-rate rules for empty premises that don't allow any fixtures and fittings (plugs, loos etc.). The building is being cleaned from time to time but fly-posters and old glue has yet to be cleared giving a dingy appearance.

#### 9. Match-day Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) hours:

Residents need to petition the Council for the extension of local CPZ hours for when the new stadium opens in 2020 for football and rugby matches. The Council will then consult residents within the relevant CPZs with options for what these extended hours **might** be. Matches will be at weekends (usually football on Saturdays and rugby on Sundays) but also occasionally on weekday evenings. Current **operational** hours vary between **the two zones within the Society's area..** The Chairman will contact the Friends of Stile Hall Gardens who have lobbied already **in relation to the Stile Hall Gardens CPZ** and will advise how to proceed **with respect to the West Chiswick CPZ**. *[Post-meeting note: An on-line petition for the Chiswick West CPZ has been set up on the Council's website; members in this CPZ are encouraged to sign before the deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019]*

#### 10. Heathrow Consultation:

- The HACAN site (link and information on WCGS and local Chiswick media websites) has information concerning the consultation, flight path changes etc. Exhibitions demonstrating the changes and showing simulations were being held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Brentford Holiday Inn and there was to be a meeting at Christchurch Turnham Green on 12<sup>th</sup> February with local MPs in attendance. 25,000 extra flights per year are proposed even before the opening of the new 3<sup>rd</sup> runway. The changes being proposed would have a major impact on Chiswick in terms of noise and all local residents were urged to respond to this consultation before 4<sup>th</sup> March when it closes.

#### 11. New Ward Boundaries:

- Adam O'Neill, who is leading our response to this, reported that there is a consultation for ward boundary changes. It was possible that the number of councillors for Chiswick could be reduced from 9 to 7 or 8, based on the forecast numbers of residents for Chiswick wards. In addition to exploring ways to maintain the current number of councillors, he suggested e that we might lobby for our area to be included inside one ward rather than be split between several as at present. Cllr Gill explained that the boundary changes are being proposed so that residents are more equally spread between wards. 3521 residents are required for each councillor and 10,500 for 3. New residential developments will increase the number of residents in our local wards and one proposal is to include some of Brentford in the Chiswick Riverside ward. The public consultation will take place later in the year. After discussion members agreed that the Society should not request that our area be included in just one ward. It was appreciated that the Ward boundary lines generally follow natural boundaries (roads, rivers, railway lines etc.). It was felt that being spread across more than one ward gave us access to more councillors etc.

#### 12. Local List Nominations:

- The Society had submitted a number of local buildings for inclusion in the Local List and we were delighted to find that the majority of our nominations and also all the other nominations that we endorsed had been included in the Council's proposed additions. The Chairman thanked the members who had helped create our list of nominations. Of items that were not accepted WCGS would challenge the non-inclusion of some such as Fromow's Corner; we consider this to be an important building worthy of inclusion.

**13. Green-up Gunnersbury:**

- Charlotte Aldridge reported some success with local businesses doing some planting/replanting and promising to do more. She suggested that a ‘meanwhile garden’ could be put in place on the land east of Chiswick Tower while decisions about future use of the site take place. The immediate focus will be to encourage street clean-ups and also nominations for best individual gardens in local streets, including information about both on our website. CA asked for more volunteers to implement this campaign.

**14. Any other business:**

- The council was consulting on HMOs with respect to making additional requirements that would improve the situation for residents both in these houses and their neighbours.
- The Chairman encouraged members to respond to the TFL CS9 consultation before the deadline of 26<sup>th</sup> February. She drew attention to the changes TfL had made to proposals for the Kew Bridge junction section.

**11. Next Public Meeting**

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Signed by the Chairman:

Date: