

#### THE WEST CHISWICK & GUNNERSBURY SOCIETY

# Residents Meeting: 28th October, 2019 Held at Age Concern Hall, Chiswick W4 At 7.30 pm

#### **MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Marie Rabouhans (Chairman)

Adam O'Neill (Vice-Chairman)

Don Osborne (Secretary)
Charlotte Aldridge (Treasurer)
Rob Hare (Webmaster)

Kate Vicic (Management Committee)
Terry Thorn (Management Committee)
Sarah Thorn (Management Committee)

Together with 20 other Members and Residents.

## 1. Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were received from Anna Rumian and Councillors Ranjit Gill, Ron Mushisho and Joanna Biddolph.

#### 2. Speaker

Janet McNamara from the Brentford and Chiswick Local History Society gave a slide-illustrated talk about the history of Stile Hall. This interesting talk used the history of three notable buildings that no longer exist to animate the architectural and social history of the area between Wellesley Road and Kew Bridge. London Stile House, London Stile Farm and Sydney House are all long gone but their names are still in existence. Like much of that end of Chiswick the arrival of railway lines and the building expansion by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century builder R.Tomlinson covered the market gardens with new houses and only names and a few paintings and photos remain of the old buildings. The Chairman thanked Janet McNamara and the audience warmly applauded.

# 3. Minutes

• The minutes of the Residents' Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. Matters Arising (not elsewhere on the Agenda)

• **Robins and Day Showroom:** An application had been made to put solar panels on the roof. The Chairman suggested that, subject to there being no adverse visual impact, the Society should support this application. Members agreed that green energy technology should be encouraged.

- **396-400 Chiswick High Road:** There was no decision yet on this development. We were hoping for a well-designed replacement for the current building. [PMN: The application has been included on the Pending Decision List for Week 45 with a recommendation for approval; it will be submitted to the Planning Committee.]
- New Ward Boundaries: Adam O'Neill raised concerns on our behalf. There was a second consultation and no outcome as yet. [PMN: The Boundary Commission has now published its decision for Hounslow wards. Turnham Green ward will be renamed Chiswick Gunnersbury and will incorporate Gunnersbury Park, Gunnersbury Cemetery, and the residents who live on Popes Lane and Lionel Road North. The major housing developments at Capital Interchange Way will be part of the Chiswick Riverside ward.]
- **250 Gunnersbury Avenue:** No application had yet been submitted.
- **Hudson Square:** No application had been submitted. [PMN: an application has now been submitted (01578/2/P3 and 01578/2/AD4) and members are requested to examine the developer's proposals and comment.]

# 5. Update on current planning issues

- Chiswick Curve: The former Secretary of State turned down the appeals. The developers have appealed to the High Court seeking an order to quash the decision and remit the appeal to the (new) Secretary of State.
- **L&Q Citroen Site**: The application for this development for 441 residential units, commercial units and a nursery in buildings 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18 storeys in height is to go to public inquiry in January 2020. The Chairman attended the pre-inquiry meeting in September.
- 1 4 Capital Interchange Way: The application for about 420 residential units plus commercial units in three buildings between 8 and 16 storeys in height has been approved by the Council.
- **Gillian Court:** The application for an office was withdrawn but a new application for a house with access from Gillian Court has been submitted. [PMN: The application has been included on the Pending Decision List for Week 45 with a recommendation for refusal on grounds of unacceptable standard of internal and external living accommodation for future occupiers.
- **58B Wellesley Road:** The appeal had been granted in May and an application to increase the height of the extra floor by 1 metre had now been made.
- **Pulse Hubs advertising:** We are still awaiting the decision on the appeal.
- **Great West Corridor, Local Plan Review:** Comments had been submitted by the Society. The Council is to submit the review for Examination in Public, possibly in the Spring.
- **Terry Thorn** reported on a Council consultation letter received by residents of Silver Crescent and Thorney Hedge Road for a bike parking structure to be placed on the carriageway of Silver Crescent near the junction with Chiswick High Road. This will be useful for people with no parking and will be on current double yellow lines so will not impact car parking.

#### 6. Brentford Football Stadium

- The Chairman attended the LRLG meeting in September. The Stadium is expected to be operational by the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2020. There will be test events from the Spring. Members recognised that it would be very important for local residents to provide feedback on the impact of these events on the local community. Issues such as crowd control, use of public transport and parking would be key. Members would be informed when dates of test events were announced.
- Controlled Parking Zones: The Society had been in communication with Mark Frost. The Council is expected to consult all affected residents shortly. Residents who would like subsidised visitors' permits on match days should include this request when replying to the consultation.
- Local Area Management Plan: We were awaiting the latest draft of LAMP with details of crowd control, station queuing systems etc.
- **Duffy Site:** There was no decision on the residential development on this site as yet the Council is asking for more affordable housing to be included in the plans.

# 7. Green Up Gunnersbury

Charlotte Aldridge reported the improvement on Chiswick High Road by the addition of two large planters provided by Cultivate London and funded through Abundance. A team, including Members planted these raised beds with shrubs and bee-friendly flowers in September. A quantity of bulbs had been donated by Abundance and these now needed to be planted. Some will go in the planters and local shop keepers will be given some to put in their planters, but volunteers are requested from amongst the membership to plant bulbs around the area in appropriate public spaces. Volunteers will also be required to keep watering the planters and the bulbs when there is no regular rain. Several volunteers agreed to start the planting on the following morning (Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October).

#### 8. Chiswick Health Centre

There were some plans available for the new centre on the W4 website following the exhibition at the health centre but not detailed ones as yet. Approximately 40 flats were proposed to be included in the design to help pay for the centre. The deadline for initial feedback was 6<sup>th</sup> December. This new health centre is part of the new London plans for large health hubs. During the demolition/construction phase it was proposed that patients would be seen at a temporary centre in Stamford Brook.

## 9. Hogarth Youth Centre

This excellent resource is under threat. It receives no government funding and is looking for ways to keep enough funding coming in to keep going. There is to be a public meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at the centre to discuss its future. Members are encouraged to attend and offer support. Meanwhile, a motion was

proposed by Terry Thorn to donate £100 from Society funds to the centre. This was seconded and approved *nem. con.* . The **Treasurer** will take the necessary action.

# 10. Date of next meeting:

The AGM will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm.

## 11. Any Other Business

- **Co-op:** There had been a spate of shoplifting and anti-social behaviour around the new Co-op store and Gunnersbury Station. The Society is hoping to organise a meeting with local police, Co-op staff and other interested parties. The Co-op has added security guards but they are only on site from 3-11pm.
- Grange Road station exit: a Grange Road resident reported on the fact that the bulb in the single lamp along the passage way between the station and Grange Road stopped working months ago but neither Network Rail or the Council had taken responsibility for replacing it. There was more drug-dealing activity in the area and residents did not feel safe walking along the dark passageway. Adam O'Neill will contact Mark Frost to settle the question of who is liable for the lamp-post. A Harvard Road resident also described drug dealing and anti-social behaviour on Harvard Road, not far from the station. Terry Thorn suggested that we invite the local community police officer to our next public meeting.
- Local List: The Chairman reported that the revised Local List, including many of our nominations, had been adopted and published on the Council website. The Council hopes to update the list on an annual basis. While not offering statutory protection from development, inclusion on the Local List meant that a building's local significance had to be considered during the planning process.
- Turnham Green Conservation Area: The proposed revision of the Appraisal for this CA is now on the Council website. Conservation Officers are proposing doubling the size of this area to include streets to the south of the Town Hall. Adam O'Neill and the Chairman would be examining the proposals and requested that **Members** also look at the plans on the website and provide them with their comments by 22<sup>nd</sup> November.
- Climate Emergency: The Council held a public workshop which the Chairman attended. She reported that it was well attended and that ideas for action both by the Council, community groups and individual residents were discussed. Reducing car use, household heating temperatures and other issues were discussed. As a follow up the Chairman will request that all new development be carbon neutral rather than allow carbon offsetting. As far as individual actions were concerned, she suggested that Members consider making a Green New Year Resolution. These could be shared at the AGM in February.

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