



THE WEST CHISWICK & GUNNERSBURY SOCIETY
www.westchiswickgs.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 10th February 2026
Held in the Age Concern Hall, Oxford Road North, W4
7.30pm

MINUTES
(subject to formal adoption at AGM in 2027)

In Attendance:	Marie Rabouhans	Chairman
	Adam O'Neill	Vice Chairman
	Kate Vicic	Secretary
	Charlotte Aldridge	Treasurer
	Robert Hare	Webmaster
	Paul Hayler	Management Committee

Together with 13 other Members and residents.

Also in attendance: Councillors Joanna Biddolph, Ranjit Gill, and Ron Mushiso

1. Welcome and Apologies

Marie Rabouhans, from the Chair, welcomed Members and Councillors to our 24th AGM. Apologies were received from: Veronica Hunt-Lewis, Stephanie Lang, Sean Feely and Don Osborne.

2. AGM Minutes

The Minutes of the previous AGM on 10th February 2025 were accepted as a true record, adopted and signed.

3. Public Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the public meeting of 6th October 2025 were accepted as a true record, approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising (not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda)

From Minute 9 of 6th October 2025: MP Andy Slaughter's concern over the closing of Hammersmith Police Station has been allayed. It will not close, for now.

5. Annual Report and Accounts

The reports were presented. The Treasurer thanked the two members that have verified the accounts: Richard Vinter and Chris Jenks.

The Chair thanked the Secretary and the Treasurer for preparing the reports.

The Annual Report and Treasurer's Report were proposed by Jeremy Cuss, seconded by Paul Hayler and adopted.

6. Matters Arising from the Annual Report and Accounts

There were no comments on the Annual Report. The Treasurer commented on the new complications around hire of the hall (our usual hall was not available on time this

evening). She commented on the discrete campaign budget; for Green up Gunnersbury there was still work to do but the bulb planting had gone ahead. She also reported that we hadn't made any charitable donations in the last year, but we would like to give £150 each to Hogarth Trust for the Youth and Community centre and to the Hounslow Food Bank. The members agreed through a show of hands.

7. Election of Officers and Committee

All four honorary officers were willing to stand for re-election:

Chairman	Marie Rabouhans	(Silver Crescent)
Vice-Chairman	Adam O'Neill	(Cambridge Road North)
Treasurer	Charlotte Aldridge	(Thorney Hedge Road)
Secretary	Kate Vicic	(Grosvenor Road)

Their joint re-election was proposed by Ruth Mayorcas, seconded by Rob Hare and they were duly re-elected.

The following members of the Management Committee were willing to stand for re-election:

Webmaster	Robert Hare	(Grosvenor Road)
Management Committee	Paul Hayler	(Stile Hall Gardens)
Management Committee	Don Osborne	(Arlington Gardens)

They were proposed by Adam O'Neill, seconded by Alan Lafferty and they were duly re-elected.

The Chair announced that Jeremy Cuss, not only a long-term member but also a founder member of the Society, had been nominated to join the committee. He was proposed by Paul Hayler and seconded by Adam O'Neill and duly elected.

8. Development and Planning:

Local Plan:

In the weeks before the AGM the Examination in Public began at the Civic Centre in Hounslow. The Chair has attended several sessions. There will be more sessions in the summer. The Chair described the format and the attendees. The Inspectors pose questions and lead the discussions; they will now reflect on these and prepare questions for the next sessions.

Gunnersbury Station/Chiswick Tower:

The application to develop the Tower into co-living units was approved in December. Since then, Access for All (AfA) funding has been confirmed by the government. This initiative is only for lifts, not a second staircase. The Chair expressed concern about how the AfA design work will be co-ordinated with the design work for installation of both a stair and a lift for which £50,000 will be required by Legal Agreement of the Chiswick Tower developer. How will the design process be managed to ensure that both essential elements are covered and that both duplication of effort and waste of resource are avoided? Councillor Biddolph reported that she had attended a recent Brentford Football Club meeting – they are also talking about the necessity of a station upgrade although no contribution to station upgrade was part of their development. They have asked Hounslow for an update on the CiL and s106 money.

Resident Alan Lafferty asked whether the Chiswick Business Park had contributed (money or ideas). The Chair replied that they had contributed s106 monies as part of the original planning permission for the business park but that some of this had been spent on relatively minor interim upgrades. She also confirmed that she is in frequent touch with our MP, Andy Slaughter, about the station upgrade.

Chiswick Sainsbury:

There will be a public meeting at the site this week to present the development of the site. The emerging Local Plan includes the site as Site 107 allocation. The developers, St James, apparently find it too restrictive and want the Council to relax the height restrictions. It is expected that a temporary supermarket would be built on the carpark while the site of the current building was being transformed.

Councillor Mushiso asked what the room thought of the height restrictions that the developers are objecting to. No building should exceed the height of the nearby Empire House. It was recognised that both Empire House and the Chiswick Tower were anomalies in an area of low-height buildings and shouldn't be used as precedents. Councillor Biddolph commented that Sainsbury's Chiswick is one of their best-performing stores in the UK (or at least the southeast). One reason for this is the car park which brings people from further away than just the local area. As the only major "public" car park this car park also supports the viability of other retail businesses in Chiswick.

Gunnersbury Park Events:

We have sent strong objections to the planning application for 28 events plus 90 days of setup/take down per year for 10 years. Our comments are available on our website. We fully appreciate the need for the CIC to generate income for the park – upkeep apparently costs between £2.5 million and £3 million per year - but there needs to be a much better balance between using the park as a commercial entertainment venue and its prime purpose as a public park. There needs to be a greater recognition of the negative impact of events on the quality of life and health of the local community, on park users and on key attributes of the park such as the park's nature value as a SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation). Income that degrades the very asset it is intended to support is not sustainable.

Councillor Biddolph reported that 300 people had objected to the plan and other local groups have sent comments. She said that tickets are being sold for events ahead of the application being decided. Members agreed that on our patch it is noise that is the main issue – this concern should not be easily dismissed. There are many new developments in the vicinity of the park whose residents will rely on it for recreation. Local developers should be called on to contribute to the upkeep of the park. The consultation is now closed to comments, but Councillor Biddolph pointed out that a review of the licence for the park has been requested.

There will be a communal fete to celebrate the centenary of Gunnersbury as a public park on 25th May.

9. AOB

Member Ruth Mayorcas brought up the problem of public tree planting – many trees' roots create pavement problems by lifting the paving stones and creating obstructions for pedestrians. Her suggestion is to remove parking spaces near these trees and build out into the road around the tree. Councillor Gill said that this is a borough-wide problem. Councillor Biddolph commented that there was no money for solutions. Rob Hare brought up helping newly planted trees to survive the sort of extreme drought as we had last year by getting people to adopt trees near them and water them. Abundance has already created a site called Tree Talk. Rob Hare will follow up.

10. Date and time of next meeting

The next public meeting will be held at the end of the summer or in early autumn, date to be confirmed by email.

In the meantime, it is hoped to organise another social event in the Pilot or the Gunnersbury pub – information will be sent out later.

The meeting adjourned to enjoy a glass of wine together at 9.15pm.

Signed by the Chairman:

Date: