

## THE BELSIZE SOCIETY

Minutes of the Committee Meeting at 1900 on Tuesday September 12 at Flat 1, 20 Netherhall Gardens, NW3.

Present: PV (Chair); AS; BA; MJ; TS; SC; PW.

Apologies for Absence: DT.

Neil Harris:

MJ, AS, PV and TS attended Neil's funeral.

AS reported having been contacted about a headstone being provided in his honour and whether the Society could contribute to the cost. It was agreed this would be supported and Committee would discuss progress in October.

PV will hold further discussions regarding access to Society documents stored with Neil's personal items.

BelSoc Business:

Pos new Treasurer: Eva was introduced to committee members by MJ and given a background to the Society and an outline of the treasurer role. Awaiting her final decision on the post.

Insurance:

It was agreed PV would arrange a new policy from September onwards.

Charities Commission: BA to deal with the Commission/HMRC registration and to liaise further with MJ.

Queen's Canopy/Bench for Diana Self:

BA updated the committee on the limited progress regarding the project. She had asked councillor Kirk to assist with completing the resurfacing and two new benches covered by agreed CIL funds, but Cllr Kirk had decided instead to enlarge the project by closing off part of the junction. His unfunded project could cost up to £180k.

Retro-Fitting:

PV outlined the committee's interest in Retro-Fitting, and SC gave an update on the practical problems involved calling for an update on guidelines. She looked forward to the day when heat pumps would be as acceptable to residents as wheelie bins in front gardens. She also reported the success of her Open House Festival event at her architectural practice which highlights retrofitted energy efficiency.

Planning

TS submitted an objection to an application for retrospective consent to works in a basement flat in Belsize Square.

BA and TS awaiting outcome of the appeal by the owner of Howitt Close against Camden's refusal to permit new penthouse flats on the roof.

BA is seeking a review of an Historic England decision to deny Howitt Close Grade 11 listing.

BA displayed a Lib Dem pamphlet highlighting the case and using quotes from BelSoc.

Trees:

BA reported making three objections to tree-felling proposals since July concerning addresses in Fitzjohn Ave; Primrose Gdns and Haverstock Hill, adding how Camden's "tree team" seem reluctant to object to felling whatever objections she puts forward.

Publications:

It was agreed to continue Newsletter publications to four a year, rather than three. Consideration to be given to reduce the print run.

Deadline for new recommendations for 2024 TYCT issue agreed as March 29 next year. PW.

Notice Board:

PV: Repair arranged with Anthony Sedwell and due soon. Cost £250 agreed.

Upcoming events:

Sept 24: The Historic Walk ends in St Saviour's Church, Eton Road, NW3 4SQ with refreshments kindly supplied by AS and SC. There's been a good response to both am/pm walks. Event was listed on Eventbrite and TS has offered to design a poster.

Nov 5: New members meeting suggested. DB has offered to host.

Nov 19: Councillors meeting proposed (5-7pm).

Dec 23: Christmas Carols date agreed.

AOB:

Date of next meeting: Oct 10. Peter Wallace to host at 7.30pm, 25 Lawn Road, NW3 2XR.