

The Belsize Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting on Tuesday July 11, 2023 at 15 Howitt Close, Howitt Road, NW3 4LX.

Present: PV (Chair); BA; SP; PW.

Apologies for Absence: DT; SC; AS; TS.

Previous Minutes accepted.

BelSoc Business:

HOWITT CLOSE APPEAL

An account of the well-attended meeting was given with much praise for the address by Councillor Tom Simon. Hopes raised that Inspector will reject the plan but it was stressed that there is still a long way to go. BA.

RETRO-FITTING:

Dismal response from Camden over proposed heat pump illustrated how officials displayed little knowledge or interest. It was claimed in the case discussed, full planning permission would be needed along with an acoustic study. An application was costed at between £500 and £1000. An offer of a “heat pump” poster for both noticeboards and an article for the Newsletter was agreed. SP.

QUEEN'S CANOPY:

Illustration of proposed plaque shown. Two types of metal plaques on offer: stainless steel preferred rather than cortone – also cheaper. SP.
Latest progress reported on benches. Need stressed for re-surfacing the site in advance of the benches and plaque. BA.

NEIL/MEMORIAL

Camden praised for latest communication concerning Neil. Planned memorial service must await funeral, of which there is no date yet. It was agreed AS should contact Camden.

NEW TREASURER:

Possible candidate mentioned by PV. It was agreed the role is voluntary rather than paid and if necessary, an approach may be made to the Institute of Chartered Accountants' voluntary treasurer section.

BANKING:

PV has accessed the society's bank accounts and has made several payments.

TREES:

Objections lodged over planned removal of two trees in Belsize Park, one in Steele's Road. BA.

NOTICE BOARD:

Damaged board in Belsize Lane being repaired.

TYCT:

Work ongoing to update booklet for 2023 publication date. SC/PW.

EVENTS:

Summer party judged a great success and it was agreed that links with the Friends of Belsize Library should be continued.

The Historic Walks is in September and it was agreed that a visit should be made to the proposed gathering in Octagon Hall of St Mary's Church. PV.

STILL TO SCHEDULE:

Bel Soc meeting with Camden councillors.BA.

New Members' event. BA.

Bel Soc Trustees meeting. PV.

Next Committee meeting agreed for September 12, rather than August 8.

Venue: Peter Wallace has offered his address: 25 Lawn Road, NW32XR.