

The Belsize Society

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 15th April 2020
via Audio Conference

Present: PV (Chair), AC, NH, AI, SP, TP, AS, TS, SC

Apologies for Absence: MJ

Minutes of last Meeting:

Minutes of March meeting: agreed

BelSoc Business

1. Committee appointments: the committee was pleased that AC accepted being co-opted to join its ranks. BM unable to take responsibility for Trees.
2. Charity Commission, additional information required: it was agreed that the answers to the three questions in MJ email of 18.03.20. should be 'No, No, No.' and for Conflict of Interest, the answer should be 'N/A' but MJ and AS to work on an official Conflict of Interest statement.
3. Covid 19: update members about help available within community (PV email of 22.03.20.):
 - i. Synagogue focusing on online and phone calls to mitigate isolation.
 - ii. From the police: beware scams; online shopping frauds, phishing emails with malicious attachments leading to stealing of personal information) AS has emailed members re shopping etc.
 - iii. Hampstead volunteers NW3 (4th digit of post code gives subgroup): 100s now helping; good response from sheltered housing blocks for grocery shopping, dog walking etc.
 - iv. RFH Community Supermarket in Fleet Road for NHS staff: open 6.30-10 00, am and pm. SP email of 15.04.20 for list of provisions required. Delivery address: c/o Kelly Rush, Rec Club, Fleet Road, NW3 2QG, open 24 hrs per day. (Question mark over electronics such as old but usable mobiles etc. and gifts (TS). Can BelSoc help by publishing list of requirements?
 - v. Winch becoming hub to support people in need. (AI)
 - vi. Sewing shop in Primrose Hill, "Sew much Fun", sewing scrubs for NHS.
 - vii. Food bank: in Primrose Hill, but called Chalk Farm Food Bank (run by Trussell Trust). Baptist Church, Berkley Rd, NW1 8YS, 0207 483 3763 and 07445 693763 open Thursdays 10.30-12.30 according to website, Collecting 11.00-13.00 Wednesdays; website gives list of current shortages <https://chalkfarm.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>.
4. Camden Air Quality Survey TP email of 12.04.20: TP collating queries for Tom at Camden. Possibility of article in August Newsletter to let members and councillors know results and any immediate actions by Council (Council has many interventions but most are on 20 year timescale).
5. Belsize Community Library, support and promotion:
 - i. AI update: Winch very active, concentrating on helping those affected by Covid 19. One librarian left at end of March and remaining librarian has been helping Winch but has now been furloughed. Library therefore totally inactive.
 - ii. Donations: these go to the Winch bank account; to ensure these go to BCL, reference should be 'For BCL only', however most donors, whether on line or not, won't know this, so does BCL receive its specific donations? Similarly, if gift aided, how does the Winch differentiate so BCL receives its share of gift aid? *c/f to end of lockdown.*
 - iii. BelSoc to set up little committee for BCL events and fund-raising, to include PV, AI, TS and two others. *c/f to end of lockdown.*

Community Meetings

1. 100 Avenue Road Construction Working Group: PV unable to participate in meeting of Thursday, 2nd April.

Planning

1. Report on planning applications
Comments/objections: 6
2020/0303/P 63 Ornan Road
2020/0458/P Windsor House, Flat 1, 5 Eton Avenue
2020/0708/P Flat 2, 40 Primrose Gardens
2020/1010/P Flat A, Strathray Gardens
2019/6155/P 99 Fellows Road
2020/0684/P, 2020/1390/L 131 Haverstock Hill
No comments: 4
2. AS to set up planning email address for use by planning and tree monitors, for applications/comments to council and for members' comments (including back page of newsletter & website). AS will notify those concerned when complete.

Trees

1. Report on applications (monitoring currently unavailable)
Comments/objections:
No comments:
AS to email members for Trees monitor volunteers

Publications

1. Newsletter: distribution would be against current government guidelines so May issue will be shorter and online for members with email. Members without email to receive printed copy. AS to contact member with access to franking machine. May content will include AGM writeup, covid information and interview with notable member. AC and AS to contact potential interviewees. August newsletter will be bumper issue, if and when lockdown removed.
2. Noticeboards: have been updated but little or no activity.
3. TYCT: 2020 edition to be distributed with August newsletter.
4. Website: Changes to Events pages complete.
5. Article to commemorate the BRA, (BT & PV): work in progress.

Events

1. New Members & Helpers: delayed due to covid
2. Garden Party on hold until lockdown removed, but PV to investigate suitable gardens.

Finance

1. Accounts for March 2020: agreed
2. £1000 transferred to savings acc
3. Gift aid claim to HMRC: delayed until Summer whilst duplicated subscriptions sorted.
4. AS to ask members to check whether they have standing orders.

Membership

1. Changes for March
New members: 0

Any other Business

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 13th May at 19.30

Location: Audio Conference