

The Belsize Society

Minutes for Committee Meeting held at 19.30 pm on Wednesday 12th May 2021
via Zoom

Present: PV (Chair), BA, AC, NH, AI, SP, AS,

Apologies for Absence: SC, MJ, TP, TS

Minutes of last Meeting:

Agreed: Minutes of April meeting:

BelSoc Business (1)

1. Reported: The trustees have appointed BA as the fifth trustee.

Finance

1. Agreed: Accounts for April:

Membership

1. Noted: Changes for April:
 - a. New members: 3
 - b. Unpaid subscriptions: AS had identified some 60 members who had apparently not paid subscriptions. They will receive a letter about this instead of the newsletter and TYCT in the forthcoming distribution. The number unpaid is probably slightly higher than at the same stage in previous years. It takes the current non-complementary membership to approximately 450 households, though this will probably rise as renewals come in.

Events

Noted:

1. Summer Party: PV has found venue and provisional date is Sunday 4th July, subject to restrictions at the time. It may be necessary to ask those intending to attend to book in. PV and AS to assess requirements. Details will be discussed at the June committee meeting.
2. New members event: An event for small numbers (20-25) would, subject to government restrictions, be possible with some outside space available, at AS's flat but would not be feasible until September. This will be discussed further at the June meeting.
3. PV reported that a historic walk, using some of the material inherited largely from Mary Shenai and available in the BRA records, might be planned for the autumn (October?).
4. PV will contact DP again about holding an event around his recent book at the Belsize Library for membership

Publications

1. Newsletter. Noted: The May issue will be distributed from 14 May.
2. TYCT. Noted: The 2021 issue has been received from the printers and will be distributed with the May newsletter.
3. Website. Noted: There are ongoing discussions between SC, PV and AS and Direction Forward about the design and implementation and costing of
 - a. A contact form to enable online inputting of TYCT recommendations
 - b. Online payment of subscriptions.
 - c. Online signing up for membership linked to a dynamic Customer Relations Management (CRM) system

Progress in these discussion will be reported to the next committee meeting.

Planning

1. Comments/objections:
Belsize Synagogue, especially trees
2. Noted: Enforcement: Belsoc is involved in dialogue, which has now restarted with Camden Council about enforcement. The Council reports that it is doing what it can within its very limited resources.

Trees

1. Comments/objections: 4
2021/1828/T 16 Eton Road
2021/1709/T 9 Steele's Road
2021/2066/T 13 Netherhall Gardens
2021/2064/T 10-12 Frognal
2. TS reported that Camden Council had rejected an application to fell the large copper beech in Lancaster Grove.

Library

Noted:

1. The Library is open on a limited basis on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
2. Some events are being broadcast by Zoom from the library, but without an audience present.
3. Suggestions for people who might give talks at the library would be very welcome. The Friends would like to draw on the Belsoc network of contact to find people.
4. Agreed: That £250 should immediately be donated to enable to library to acquire audio-visual equipment that was needed to undertake and broadcast talks. This would be required for DP's talk amongst others.

Any other business:

Noted: The Committee welcomed the news that Camden Council had announced that the NW3 Community Land Trust is its preferred bidder for the redevelopment of 31 Daleham Gardens, to provide 14 units of social housing.

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 9th June at 19.30

Location: via Zoom