



THE HACKNEY SOCIETY

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Company registration no. 4574188

Charity no. 1126736

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Held on Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 8.00 p.m.

This took place at the Victoria Park Community Centre

The AGM was preceded by a tour of Christchurch Estate. The tour was led by Claudia Lynch of locally based Lynch Architects.

The estate was designed by John Spence and built for the Crown Estate in the 1970's near Victoria Park. Christchurch Estate is regarded as a fine example of modernist residential architecture and a popular place to live. Pevsner says it features "friendly brown brick low-rise housing".

Present: Trustees – Ray Blackburn, Julia Lafferty, Sue Doe, Tina Skivington and Bob Mitchell; and members: Liz Anderson, Joannie Andrews, Monica Blake, Colin Brooking, Jerry Cooper, Fiona Darbyshire, Tony Dewick, Laurie Elks, John Finn, Peter Fischer, Kristina Gillett, Tony Gillett, Sean Gubbins, David Harris, Jeanne Mitchell, Justin More, Jane Plant, Michael Roberts, Oliver Schick, Lisa Shell, Kate Starling, Suzanne Waters.

Also, several non-members attended the tour of the Christchurch Estate.

Agenda Items	Discussions and Decisions
1. Apologies for Absence /Announcements	Apologies were received from: Rosie Barker, Bernard Bourdillon, Elaine Burrows, Mary Cannon, Olivia Kilmartin, Ian Rathbone, Barbara Wheeler, Robert Whytehead.
2. Minutes of the 2021 AGM	The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 22 September 2021 were approved, proposed by Sue Doe and seconded by Tony Gillett.
3. Receive the Trustees' Annual Report	<p>Ray Blackburn, caretaker Chair of the Trustees, presented the report for the year ended 31 March 2022. He reported that Nick Perry and Monica Blake resigned at the last AGM. Wendy Forrest left just after the last AGM due to health problems, but is still active with the book, Women from Hackney's History. Annette Russell joined during the year, but due to work commitments was unable to continue and stepped down. Tony Gillett resigned from his several roles within the Hackney Society, treasurer, company secretary, minute taker and newsletter distributor. Tony has worked tirelessly for Hackney Society since 2002 and will be sorely missed. Sue Doe, Tina Skivington and Bob Mitchell have been co-opted and will be standing as Trustees.</p> <p>Membership: This is at a similar level to previous years at 258, of whom 57 are life members.</p>



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	<p>Events: Seven events were held in total, 3 on-line, 2 hybrid and 2 in person walks.</p> <p>Publications: Women from Hackney's History sold out during the year and a reprint was agreed. 1,000 copies have been printed and it is selling well.</p> <p>Spaces: Four issues of Spaces have been produced in the year. Sue Doe has taken over the editor's role from Monica Blake and produced her first issue. Sue conferred her thanks to Glory Hall and the printers for their help. Around 500 copies of Spaces are distributed each quarter. The Spacelets online news email is sent to 1,500 email addresses.</p> <p>Website: The Society continues to maintain a website showing announcements and events. There is funding to update the website but to date we have not been able to find a volunteer to manage this.</p> <p>Social Media: Rossana Tich manages the Society twitter account which has just reached 12,000 followers.</p> <p>Hackney Society Planning Group: Meets monthly and continues to review proposals for significant developments within the borough. Lisa Shell continues to chair with Nick Perry as Secretary. Further highlights of the HSPG can be found on the Trustees' Annual Report which can be accessed through a link on the website.</p> <p>Plans for 2022-2023: Updating the website remains a priority and we are looking for a volunteer to co-ordinate the project. We have received a donation and have capital funds available for the update.</p> <p>The membership fee has not been increased for this year. Events that have been held roughly break even and we will look at offering a programme in 2022-2023 that will be a mix of online and in person.</p> <p>The book, Women from Hackney's History has generated spin off projects. We have collaborated with the Tower Theatre and Abney Park Trust to produce a film showing some of the women's stories. This was premiered on 17th September at the Tower Theatre.</p> <p>One trustee, Julia Lafferty, developed a guided walk, including actors, in Springfield Park following its refurbishment. This was produced in conjunction with Hackney Council and was very successful. Hackney Council has a budget for this type of activity and we hope to do more in the future.</p> <p>One member, Colin Brooking, thanked the Hackney Society for the year's zoom presentations.</p>
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	<p>The report was approved - proposed by Tony Gillett and seconded by Fiona Darbyshire.</p>
<p>4. Report of the Independent Financial Examiner for the year 2021/22</p>	<p>The accounts have not yet been finalised. David Harris, the Independent Financial Examiner, said that the accounts were not finished due to his holiday, but they were a good draft and the only thing left to do was to attend to some rounding differences and disclosure notes. The figures for reserves at £29,806 and income at £8,018 are correct.</p> <p>Ray requested and received a round of applause for Tony Gillett as he has now stepped down as Treasurer, and from various other roles in the Society.</p>
<p>5. Election of the Independent Financial Advisor</p>	<p>A round of applause was given and a copy of Women from Hackney's History was presented to Dave.</p>
<p>6. Election of Trustees</p>	<p>Ray Blackburn, as caretaker Chair stated that there were only five Trustees and that the Hackney Society would benefit from others standing. All current Trustees and co-opted members indicated their willingness to stand again and nomination forms were presented and read out by Ray. Trustees were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ray Blackburn, acting Chair. Proposed by Sue Doe and seconded by Bob Mitchell• Julia Lafferty. Proposed by Fiona Darbyshire and seconded by Laurie Elks• Sue Doe. Proposed by Kate Starling and seconded by Colin Brooking• Tina Skivington. Proposed by David Harris and seconded by Colin Brooking• Bob Mitchell. Proposed by Laurie Elks and seconded by Kate Starling <p>Oliver Schick indicated that he would be interested in becoming a Trustee. He will be invited to the next committee meeting and will be able to stand formally at the next AGM.</p>
<p>7. Any Other Business</p>	<p>The next event is to be held on 23rd October and will be a walk along the 'Ackney Road.</p>

END OF MINUTES



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