



THE HACKNEY SOCIETY

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

Held on Tuesday 2 December 2014 at 7pm, at the Hackney Town Hall, E8 1EA

| Agenda Items | Discussions and Decisions |
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| 1. Apologies for Absence. | Apologies were received from: James Wright and Mary Sewell. |
| 2. Minutes of the 2013 AGM | <p>The Minutes of the previous AGM held on 14 November 2013 were approved with two corrections - a) the heading should have read: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013, b) Fiona Darbyshire's name had been miss-spelt; proposed by Monica Blake and seconded by Margaret Willes.</p> <p>The Chair, Kevin Moore commented that item 7, Proposed Summer Outing to Eastbury Manor and Valence House had not happened, it was not possible in the summer, but the trustees would investigate a trip in the Spring. On item 8, New Lansdowne Club, 195 Mare Street, Kevin explained there had been 2 meetings with the Council, and that the developer has recently submitted a new application using a new architect.</p> |
| 3. Annual Report of the Executive Committee | <p>The Chair, Kevin Moore, presented the report for the year ended 31 March 2014, and thanked his fellow trustees for keeping the Society going for another year. He pointed out that our Twitter account (@HackneySociety) now has 6,565 followers.</p> <p>He is standing down as Chair after nearly 10 years, as he now lived just outside the borough, but will remain on the committee for one year in order to assist the new Chair. He commented that whilst it had been a roller coaster, he had thoroughly enjoyed his time as Chair.</p> <p>From the floor, Laurie Elks commented on the Council's withdrawal of the Society's long standing, non-voting seat amongst the Councillors on the Planning Sub-Committee. He urged the Society to write to the Council and request a reversal of the decision, pointing out that other Councils include the local Civic Society on their planning committees. It was agreed that the trustees would look into this.</p> <p>Ray Blackburn requested and received a round of applause for Kevin. The report was approved - proposed by Ray Blackburn and seconded Tony Gillett.</p> |
| 4. Report of the Independent Financial Examiners for the year 2013/14 | <p>Tony Gillett, the Treasurer introduced the report. He reported that the Society remains solvent, but needs to regularly generate funds from new projects, membership and booksales to meet core costs, such as the cost of printing and mailing out Spaces, and, in particular the accountancy costs of £1,500 each year (necessitated because we are a company limited by guarantee).</p> <p>He would like to recruit a suitably qualified person to prepare the annual accounts with his help in order to save on this cost.</p> <p>The accounts were approved - proposed by Anne Cooper and seconded by Fiona Darbyshire.</p> |

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| 5. Election of Independent Financial Examiners. | Tony Gillett, the Treasurer proposed that Hetherington and Co of 289 Green Lanes, Palmers Green, London N13 4XS be re-appointed as Independent Financial Examiners to the Society for the following year. Tony Gillett proposed and Kevin Moore seconded, and the proposal was agreed unanimously. |
| 6. Officers and Members of the Committee | <p>The nominee statements for all the people proposed for Officers and Members of the Committee were available to the meeting.</p> <p>Fiona Darbyshire proposed and Anne Cooper seconded that the following were elected: Chair: Nick Perry Vice Chair: Margaret Willes Treasurer: Tony Gillett Committee Members: Kevin Moore, Monica Blake, Rossana Tich, Laurie Elks, Julia Lafferty, Lisa Shell, and Ray Blackburn.</p> <p>In addition, the outgoing Chair thanked David Shaw and Claudia Jessop who have been committee members for some time, but have decided to stand down. Both will continue to assist the committee, David on the Planning and Publicity groups, and Claudia on the Publications group, and by proof reading <i>Spaces</i> copy.</p> <p>At this point, the new Chair, Nick Perry thanked the outgoing Chair, Kevin Moore and Vice-Chair, Monica Blake and presented them with gifts from their fellow trustees.</p> |
| 7. Any Other Business | <p>a) From the floor, Colin Brooking, spoke of the exhibition at The Geffrye Museum setting out their latest expansion plans. Nick Perry told the meeting that the Society had written in to English Heritage broadly supporting the plans, and that our comments were available on our website.</p> <p>b) Again, from the floor, Oliver Schick spoke of the plans Transport for London have for the Old Street roundabout. The London Cycling Campaign have registered strong objections, and are lobbying Islington Council (part of the site is in Islington). He is urging a reversion to the original layout. Nick Perry assured the meeting that although the Society is primarily concerned with buildings, rather than travel issues, the Society's Planning Group would look very careful at the plans when they are submitted.</p> <p>c) Nick Perry said that a similar large scheme at Bishopsgate, which has a strong local campaign against it, was currently being considered by the Society's Planning Group. They are hoping the current proposals will be refused, and then plan to approach the developers for a constructive discussion.</p> <p>d) The newly elected Trustee, Laurie Elks, put in a plug for the Pig's Ear beer festival, currently taking place at the Round Chapel (which is administered by Hackney Historic Buildings Trust, of which he is also a trustee).</p> |