

Herne Hill Forum Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 16th May 2023, 8pm, at The Florence (Lupino Room)

Present

Clive Rates (Chair of meeting), Giles Gibson (co Vice Chair) (via Zoom), Robert Holden, Laura Assersohn, Jim Davidson, Mary Burguieres, Peter Hore (via Zoom), Nigel Thorpe, Jasia Warren (via Zoom).

Apologies

George Hornby (co Vice Chair), James Leabeater (Treasurer), Irene Kimm.

Declarations of Interest: None

Minutes from the last meeting

February meeting's minutes approved Suggested amendment to April meeting's minutes to be circulated to all committee members for approval.

Matters Arising

The Herne Hill Society panels on the metal grilles in the station tunnel have been restored by Jasia and Robert.

Item	Summary and actions	Responsible	
1	Committee members		
	 Nigel Thorpe was welcomed as a new committee member. David Taylor has announced that he is sadly resigning from the committee as he is moving from the area. The committee expressed their thanks for his many years of hard work for the community. To confirm all committee members on circulation at next meeting 	Jasia	
2	Begging and Anti-social behaviour		
	 HHF contacted by Emily Montague (Chair, Herne Hill Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel) in relation to community concern about begging, drug mis-use and criminality associated with organised begging. Request that HHF consider installing a "tap to donate" facility to encourage donations to relevant charities rather than individuals. Also request to circulate to relevant groups that individuals begging have been offered charitable support but declined. Committee members have witnessed begging in the tunnel behind the station and it appears organized in that individuals appear to be on a rota. Do not feel HHF have the information to circulate that all individuals begging have declined charitable support to date. 	Jasia John Frankland Newsletter	



	 Railton Road Traders and Residents group have been discussing Tap London donation points for many years. Concerns regarding vandalism raised. Jim Dickson (Lambeth councillor) discussing messaging with Public Protection office in Lambeth Council. London Mayor's Office now run the Tap London scheme. TFL have on-train messages to reduce organized begging. One HH trader has apparently offered to host a Tap London donation point. Jasia will discuss with trader and also Tap London regarding progress Next HHF newsletter to highlight concerns raised by HH ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel Ask John Frankland if it would be useful to invite Emily Montague to a committee meeting 	
3	Community Tent	
	 Operational since 2018, features community groups and occurs every 2 weeks (2 slots 10-1pm, 1-4pm) with good infrastructure (Alice) and 2 local young people helping to set up and dismantle but requires adult HHF presence – need volunteers. CCFM pay HHF for the stall Committee members need to volunteer to ensure its smooth running. Mary Burguieres does 15 sessions p.a. Every committee member to aim to cover two slots in 12 month period 	All committee members
4	Financial Review	
	 James Leabeater and Clive Rates have discussed whether Clive, as a chartered accountant and non-officer, should do an independent finance review along the framework suggested by Charity Commission. Clive will circulate to committee what is entailed for independent review 	Clive
5	Fundraising	
	 Discussions regarding how HHF can become responsive to potential grant opportunities but also how to scope potential projects. Funding for core costs may be available. Table for grants currently available previously circulated. Separate meeting in 2 weeks to be held for committee to discuss how to identify and scope potential projects and to define process for submitting grant proposals 	Jasia
6	Diversity	
	 Lambeth Forum Network offer free diversity training for forums – hire of venue and £100 refreshments. It would not be compulsory. Jasia to obtain more details and circulate to see if this is something in which the committee wants to partake. Jasia has had contact with a local resident who works in 	Jasia meet with local resident (+/- Giles or Laura)
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	resident with either Giles or Laura to discuss her ideas and think of ways to harness her input.	
7	Policies	
•••••	Clive looking at Policies and will circulate updated draft	Clive
	version prior to next committee meeting	
8	Social Media accounts	
	 Some committee members expressed disquiet that an Extinction Rebellion tweet had been re-tweeted from HHF account (re-tweet of XR approved by two of the Officers). HHF has twitter account (accessed by Jasia and two of the officers) and Instagram account (uploaded by a volunteer and Alice) Governance around social media needs to be agreed and its usage added to the Policies. 	Next committee meeting
9	Local business support	
	 Greengrocer Seasons will apparently be closing shortly due to increase in rents Rise in rents by Arch Company and Dulwich Estate and its impact on local businesses discussed Ideas around potential campaigns to help highlight challenges faced by HH traders discussed – further work required Laura and Irene and Jim (as member of HH Traders Association) keen to engage with HH Traders' Association and all traders in HH area to understand how HHF might help them Support for HHF to implement a positive "Shop Local" campaign was unanimous 	Laura, Irene and Jim to engage with HH traders
10	Volunteer fair 1 June	
	 Opportunity for HHF to attend a volunteer fair on 1st June. Will not use it this year. 	
11	Planter	
	• Request for £40 to tend the planter outside Station Hall – one off payment though may be an annual request. Approved	Jasia to inform
12	Free tickets to Brockwell Live	
	10 free tickets available to Brockwell Live event for committee members – please inform Jasia which event and how many	
13	AOB	

Next committee meeting - Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 8pm