

Old Chiswick Protection Society
DRAFT
Minutes of the 58th Annual General Meeting
Monday 23rd November 2015 at
The Hock Cellar, Fullers' Brewery

1. Welcome

The Chairman thanked those present for attending. Our thanks were due to Alan and Grania for hosting the Summer Party. Sir Alan does an enormous amount for OCPS.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting were approved.

3. Election of President

Sir Alan Munro was unanimously elected President for the forthcoming year.

President's remarks

We've been lucky this year in welcoming some new, younger, members on to our committee. We owe Russell an enormous debt of gratitude. He has a great deal on his legal plate. Yet he gives of his time, and indeed eminence, on legal matters. We are very fortunate to have him. His time as Chairman must now, sadly, come to an end. The meeting expressed its gratitude. Penny Barltrop has kindly agreed to take on the chairmanship. She has done all sorts of work for the Committee, has very good links with the Borough, and continues with her Neighbourhood Watch work.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to David and Ali Phillips. The old Lamb Brewery owned by the Sich Family, was sold to a developer, who had some pretty awful plans which would have meant overdevelopment of the site. David and Ali have now completed the conversion work in a sympathetic and appropriate way, maintaining the balance of density and traffic.

Our Conservation Secretary and the President had a very good meeting with Fullers recently about solar panels along the long roof of the big shed which lies along the area of Mawsons Lane and the A4. This illustrates our very positive relationship with Fullers.

Fullers are launching a Winter Ale, St Nicks, which will be sold through all its outlets, on Friday 28th at George and Devonshire. Profits will go to the St Nicholas development fund.

The Old Cherry Blossom works, where there is a new office development stands, will now have 80 houses and the front will become a hotel. It's outside our CA.

4. Election of members of the Executive Committee

Russell Harris, Graham Clifton, Sophie Sainty, Lesley Gatenby, and Simon Yardley were elected to the Committee to serve for three years.

5. Hon. Treasurer's Report

The Chairman presented the accounts, in the absence of the Treasurer. We have reserves in excess of £21,000. This is not high. It would be used up very quickly if we had a planning appeal. We have been consistently running a small deficit. Thus it was agreed at our last committee meeting increase the sub to £15. That's the first increase since the late 80's. At that level, we will generate enough income to cover our major annual expenditure.

Subs are a little down, individual donations are at their highest level ever. Book sales are down, as last year several local booksellers settled longstanding accounts. Pollarding expenditure was up.

The accounts were duly approved.

6. Chairman's Report

Last year, we reported on two cases, and said that they would be important. Basically, these two cases have established that, in the case of a proposed development in a Conservation Area, which causes *any* harm, then there is a presumption against development. The Court said that the words used in the

1947/48 legislation were deliberate. The Court of Appeal has now confirmed those decisions. It means that developers are being much more realistic in their proposals. It makes our jobs easier. Protection remains the key. The cases mean that we will be able more readily to protect our Conservation Area. OCPS is respected locally and our Borough listens to us.

Heritage lights: LBH announced it was going to replace all street lights with one size fits all, ugly, replacements. We and other Preservation groups campaigned against them. We seem to have been successful. The heritage light replacements will be appropriate swan neck lights.

Wheelie bins: They enable sustainable recycling. But if left outside houses 365 days a year, Conservation Areas are blighted. LBH was proposing two large bins. We are engaging with LBH on this. If they can only be kept on the road, you can refuse them. We have told them about the problems with the tide.

The corner shop: it's reopening. But it has applied for an operator's licence to open until 1 a.m., and music. There will be a meeting of HAMRA tomorrow, Janey Stevens will represent us.

7. The Thames Panorama

Janey Stevens gave a brief but fascinating presentation about a new book illustrating the Thames Panorama. OCPS had been involved in its production, giving information to the writers. A fascinating film clip followed.

8. AOB :

The corner shop: we need to be vigilant

Third Runway : meeting at St Michael and All Angel's Church on Wednesday 26th November. We will publicise both on the web site.

The Hogarth Roundabout: planting has begun. It does not look good at the moment, but Fullers will not want it looking in a poor state. They have a contract with TfL. Speeding vehicles are still a problem along the wider part of the Mall. It's been a problem for years, but speed humps are not the answer. We will ask Fullers again, to ask their drivers to slow down.

Fullers were thanked for their generous hospitality.