

LONDON FORUM OF AMENITY AND CIVIC SOCIETIES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12th OCTOBER 2021

Draft minutes

by ZOOM video conference 6.30p.m.

Present. P Eversden, Chairman, and representatives of the Amwell Society, Barnet Residents Association,, Bermondsey Street London, Camden Civic Society, Ealing Civic Society, East Greenwich Residents Association, Finchley Society, Hammersmith Society, Highbury Community Association, Highgate Society, Islington Society, Kensington Society, Kew Society, Knightsbridge Association, Ladywell Society, Lodge Lane Residents' Forum, Penge Forum, Peckham Vision, Pinner Association, Putney Society, St Marylebone Society, Stamford Brook Residents Association, Telegraph Hill Society, Thorney Island Society, Westcombe Society, and the York House Society

Apologies for absence had been received from the Belgravia Residents Association, the Brixton Society, and the West Chiswick and Gunnersbury Society

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed all those members who had joined the Zoom meeting.

2. Minutes of the AGM 15th October 2020

The Minutes of the 2020 AGM had been placed on the Forum website. No changes had been suggested, and they were agreed, nem con.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman said that the Annual Report, which had been circulated to members' described in detail the work that had gone on during the year. He thanked particularly the members of the Executive Committee and Planning, Environment and Transport who had had a heavy workload during the year, and he asked for other members of Societies to offer themselves to serve on Forum committees. The online Insights, which had replaced News Forum, was welcomed as a way of communicating with member societies in a timely fashion; it should enable societies to pass on their achievements.

Two matters had dominated the year. First, the Government's White Paper, the strong reactions to which, together with recent statements by Ministers and other leading Conservatives, had produced much confusion, and clarification of the Government's intentions was awaited; meanwhile permitted development rights had been widened,

with seriously damaging effects. Second, the new London Plan, which left much - especially on the location of tall buildings - to boroughs; the Greater London Authority had as yet failed to produce the Supplementary Planning Documents that were needed.

4. Financial Report

Mr Speak took the meeting through the accounts, which had been circulated. There had been five new members, and costs had been reduced by the change from News Forum to Insights and an improvement in the terms of the Form's insurance. A review of the Forum's governance was in progress. The reserves (which had all been transferred to Scottish widows) were increasing, but in the next year there would be calls on them for the renewal of the website and the Forum's database, and for subsidising workshops and studies and for publicity.

5. Approval of Annual Report and Accounts for 2020-21

Mr Bach proposed and Mr Mason (Kew Society) seconded the approval of the report and accounts; they were approved *nem. con.*

6. Appointment of Honorary Independent Examiner

Mr Speak proposed and Mr Myers seconded the reappointment of Mr Egan. This was approved *nem. con.*

7. President and Vice-President

The Chairman sought approval for the appointment, which the Executive Committee had made, of Ben Derbyshire as President and Nicky Gavron as a Vice-president. He explained the strengths which they would bring to the Forum. The meeting gave approval, *nem. con.*

8. Election of Officers and Trustees

The Chairman said that all the present officers and trustees were willing to continue; the four trustees who were retiring in rotation - he himself (Peter Eversden), Michael Hammerson, Peter Pickering and Stephen Speak, had been nominated. Their election en bloc was proposed by Mary Hogben and seconded by Michael Bach; they were elected *nem. con.*

9. Other business

There was none, and the Chairman closed the formal part of the meeting with thanks to all who had attended.