

HAM UNITED GROUP CIC -YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP-CARE ABOUT WHERE YOU LIVE

INCORPORATING PETERSHAM



Meeting notes

Wednesday 26th September 2012

at 7.30pm at The Little House, Ham Close (off Ashburnham Road)

Present

Andrew Beedham (chair), Danielle Coleman, Justine Glynn, John Hatto, Carole Hegedus, Jill Lamb, Jean Loveland, Andres Muniz-Piniella, Sarah Perrett, Briony Rowland, Bettina Rixon, Chas Warlow, Cllr David Williams, Richard Woolf, Penny Frost (secretary)

Apologies

Mark Brand, Wendy Hatto, Geoff Hyde, Cllr Sue Jones, David Lawton, Cllr Brian Miller, Mary Pittaway,

1. Introductory remarks

Andrew chaired the meeting in Mark's absence and welcomed all present

2. Approval of minutes 30th 2012 and matters arising

Minutes from the last meeting were approved, with the following matter arising:

- The jammed window shutter in the Little House has been reported and will be mended

3. HUG Events Plan update

- 18th August Creepy-crawlies: John Hatto reported that the event went very well, and it has been agreed that creepy-crawly events will be held monthly as a joint HUG/library initiative, with the next one in November. Suggestion that a poster should display the involvement of HUG in this initiative
- joint HUG/Greenpeace event went well, but attendance was affected by the weather
- bulb planting on 8th Sept, in collaboration with HUG, went well – thanks to Andrew, Jean, Justine and Chas

- BBQ was very successful – thanks to all involved
- Apple Festival – may be postponed because of delay in community orchard, but something needs to be held because funding has been received from Civic Pride – suggestion of a mulled wine/mulled spicy apple event with apple cake to be held in the library garden (or Little House if wet) around half term – date tba
- Apple press will be bought but lack of apples at present
- It was agreed that HUG will not participate in this year's Ham House 'Home Grown' event

4. Village / Neighbourhood Plan

Andrew explained his disappointment at the way in which the Council's Village Plan did not reflect any of the comments made at the consultation, excluded the RHP, all local health services and other local interests. The booklet concentrates on describing Council services, has no structure and does not drive forward a far-reaching and cohesive vision for Ham. Andrew will circulate to HUG members the response he has written, and asks the membership to send back to him any further comments of their own which he will collate and include with the response that he will return to the Council very shortly. It was agreed that it is time formally to request a Neighbourhood Forum. Andrew has the necessary paperwork and a model application to follow. **Action:** Andrew

5. Streetscape/signage

Phone and broadband boxes no longer need permission to install. A paper from Mark will be circulated outlining the issues he has identified for a HUG response. **Action:** Mark

6. MUGA

The application was refused on the grounds that it was unacceptable on public open space. The MUGA would be of great value to the Youth Club, and might have been passed on its original site in a car park, but the opposition was so great that the Youth Club will probably not try again in the near future.

7. Computer clinics

Andres has tried a one-off computer clinic with John Hatto, which went well. **Action:** Andres will be given a key for the Little House, set a starting date and publicise the clinics through the Ham and Petersham magazine, library etc

8. Street art

Andres has had no luck so far with contacting the Kingston Uni School of Art to promote an art competition – Jill has offered a contact for him to reach the School of Art. If a competition is set up, it must be widely advertised so that the community is aware of, and accepting of, the project. It was noted that Bernadette Vallely was very effective some years ago in her organisation of the mosaic on the Youth Club wall. **Action:** Mark will approach BT to discuss painting of telecoms cabinets.

9. Bio-diversity and Ham

John introduced his redrafted paper and outlined the importance of managing the rich biodiversity in Ham. Andrew asked John if he could now focus on some specific projects with time-lines, on which HUG could move forward. **Action:** John will identify some specific projects to highlight, which can be worked on in collaboration with other local interest groups.

9. Quick Project Updates

- **Ham Community Orchard:** a public meeting will be held before half-term to consider alternative venues, and David Williams was invite to chair this meeting
- **LCZ II:** Andrew has written an article for the Ham and Petersham Magazine drawing attention to a range of issues relating to the LCZ. Following the relocation of RHP offices to Ham Library, it is hoped that an officer will be available a couple of afternoons a week to give energy-saving advice. In the future there will be less money for LCZ activities, so new funding may need to be found to support developing projects
- **Street Champions:** useful meeting with Kingston Uni's 'Smart Communities' group, which has an excellent website to check energy consumption and effective local projects
- **Ham Hydro:** the drawings are not in yet as there is a wait for extra acoustic
- **Community Allotment:** all going well. A donation of £250 has been received. A good day with Petersham Horticultural Society attended by about 35 people. 12 Grey Court students with special educational needs work on the allotment regularly and £100 has been handed to the school from sale of eggs
- **Ham and Petersham Community First Panel:** 3 local grants were approved to support community projects provided by St Richard's and Ham SOS. The next tranche of community project funding will be available for application next spring – matched funding can be provided by costing out volunteer labour. It is also possible to generate significant long-term funding through setting up 'endowment funds'
- **Swimming Pool:** funds are still being received for the sponsored swim held at Teddington Pool on 16th September, and further applications have been made to charities. It is hoped that the feasibility study can proceed without the full funding having been raised. Grey Court will hold a meeting to explain to parents how the swimming pool, the new 6th form build and the Strathmore unit will all fit together

10. AGM/Annual accounts/CIC report

The annual accounts are now completed. The date of the AGM is 28th November – calling notice to be circulated by 7th November

11. AOB and dates of next meetings

- Public meeting Thursday 29 November 7pm Duke Street Church, Richmond – Vince Cable and Zac Goldsmith will answer questions on the Arms Trade and its impact on Human Rights and Poverty
- Ham and Petersham Sea Scouts are putting in an application to rebuild their Sea Scout hut in Douglas Meadows
- Ken Mackenzie - barn dance at the Russell School Sat 29th September 2-6pm
- Greener-upon Thames is running a campaign to place a levy on use of plastic bags in Kingston, and are working hard to show the threat of discarded plastic bags to our wildlife and sealife

Please put the following dates in your diary: Thursday **25th October**, Wednesday **28th November** (AGM)

All meetings will take place in the Little House and start at 7.30pm

Where possible, items of AOB should be with Penny at least 7 days in advance of each meeting date.