

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

INCORPORATING PETERSHAM



Meeting notes

Wednesday 25th July 2012

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

Present

Mark Brand (chair), Andrew Beedham, Danielle Coleman, Justine Glynn, Jill Lamb, Sue Jones, Brian Miller, Sarah Perrett, Chas Warlow, David Williams, Penny Frost (secretary)

Apologies

Katherine Bousfield, John and Wendy Hatto, Geoff Hyde, David Lawton, Jean Loveland, Mary Pittaway

1) Introductory remarks

Mark welcomed all present

2) Approval of minutes 28th June 2012 and matters arising

Minutes from the last meeting were approved and no matters were arising (note that Jill Lamb had given apologies verbally at the previous meeting)

3) HUG Events Plan update

- 15th July Bike ride – small take-up but a lovely event. **Action:** agreed that the HUG bike-riding sub-group will research other organised and regular bike-rides in the area to join, rather than trying to run a regular event themselves
- 26th June Games evening (age 13+) – as yet no take-up but members are encouraged to attend
- 18th August Creepy-crawlies: John Hatto needs another helper to work with younger children investigating beetles – **Action:** offers to John asap
- 15th September BBQ by the Little House – this will take place late afternoon, time to be circulated

- Car Boot Sale in September – Grey court if running, otherwise another local sale
- Ham Library is holding a number of 60th birthday events, including 8th September children's tea party. **Action:** Events Group will check the HUG display in the Library to ensure maximum visibility to library users
- Agreed that Library staff can use the gazebos kept at the Little House for events on the Thursday in the first week of September, but need help with setting up and taking down. **Action:** names of volunteers to Events Group
- Local events can be advertised free of charge on the BBC website – Jill Lamb will circulate the link for the Events Group to use

4) Village / Neighbourhood Plan

The council supports the HUG proposal to apply for a Neighbourhood Forum, and Andrew is meeting members of the Central Policy Team next Tuesday 31st July 10am (others can attend if interested – contact Andrew Beedham) to discuss the next step. A Community Development Officer has been allocated one day a week to service the H&P community.

A HUG group has met on Monday 23rd July to consider the way forward, and the following points were made:

- The Neighbourhood Forum should be widened to include the details contained in the Ham Village Plan as well as the goals outlined in the HUG Village Plan, and further goals as agreed among participating community groups
- To be effective, it must go beyond the legislative structure, with community involvement underpinned by clear strategy
- It must be inclusive, and draw in all the local service providers and community groups – it requires a minimum of 21 signatories
- There is no specific timescale, but the H&P Neighbourhood Forum application and its development into a fully-fledged H&P Village Forum is likely to start in the autumn

Action: Andrew to proceed with drawing up the outline for the Village Forum

5) Bio-diversity and Ham (paper from John Hatto)

John's paper was warmly commended for its breadth and detail.

Action: since John was not present to lead the discussion, it was agreed that HUG members should be encouraged to email him with specific responses to his key questions, and he should circulate some dates and venues when members could join him to walk the sites under his consideration. He should then convene a small group to take his paper forward.

6) Quick Project Updates

- **Ham Community Orchard:** one resident has objected, but it was agreed that HUG should seek to build support for the eventual realisation of the project. It was also agreed that we should proceed with some smaller plantings at smaller sites in Ham & Petersham, since there are trees available to plant. **Action:** drawings and plans are needed to support the proposal, and alleviate the anxieties of residents (Andrew), , as well as proposals for other small planting sites to Andrew (all)
- **LCZ II, Street Champions:** the Council is making a new officer appointment, with a time allocation to H&P of 1 day per week
- **Ham Hydro:** the scheme is being redesigned and will be resubmitted shortly. Ham Hydro is featured in the Ham Village Plan
- **Community Allotment:** both the allotment and the library garden have been given the Green Flag award
- **Ham and Petersham Community First Panel:** nothing new to report
- **Swimming Pool:** Andrew is seeking Community Uplift funding to support a £6000 feasibility study and the next stage of the planning application , which will be critical to the success of the project

7) AOB

- **MUGA planning application** – 140 objections have been received, mainly relating to planning issues, so these are not issues for HUG involvement. The Ham Village Plan should be sensitive to the negative points raised, particularly concern expressed about potential for litter and drug use, and try to address them for concerned residents
- **Computer self-help workshops and Street art** (2 items brought forward by Andres) – a positive response to these from HUG members present, so it was agreed that these will be held over to the next meeting when they can be given more detailed consideration
- **Kew and Ham Football Club** – an official objection from wild-life officers is to be lodged in relation to the proposed flood-lighting with its likely disturbance to bats and badgers, and HUG recommends local residents also make their own objections
- **Use of Little House by other community groups** - HUG agreed a request by Anne Powell of the Ham and Petersham Association for informal use of the Little House for some committee meetings, but members were reminded that HUG's lease of the Little House expires in February 2013. **Action:** Andrew and Chas are key holders and will liaise with Anne on this
- A reminder that **surplus eggs** are available from Grey Court community chickens during school holidays
- **Back Lane/The Bench vegetable garden** – this is going well, and needs a signboard linking it to HUG. **Action:** Mark and Jean to design signboard and gain quotes for approval at next HUG meeting
- **The memorial to Frank Hegedus** – Justine asked what progress is being made on arranging the bench in memory of Frank. **Action:** Jean to provide an update

- **Kingston University Smarter Community Project** – this project includes the monitoring of energy use etc, and ties in well with the LCZ work. They are keen to develop links with local communities. **Action:** Justine to follow up
- **Centre for sustainable energy** – communities can get involved with the Green Deal

8) **Dates of monthly meetings in 2012**

All meetings will be held in The Little House and start at 7.30pm. Please put the following HUG meeting dates in your diary:

30th August, 26th September, 25th October, 28th November