

INCORPORATING PETERSHAM



Meeting notes

Monday 1st June, 2015 – Ham Library

Present

Jill Lamb (Chair), Diane Bridson, Paul Brown, Danielle Coleman, Jonathan Fray, Justine Glynn, Robert Grieves, John Hatto, Katherine Henry, Jessica Kennedy, Justine Langford, Tim Lennon, Jean Loveland, Jose Medina, Andres Muniz, Carl Myhill, Julia Rees, Briony Rowland, Chris Ruse, Chas Warlow, Penny Frost (secretary)

Apologies

Andrew Beedham, David Lawton, Mary Pittaway, David Williams

1. Chair's welcome

Jill welcomed all to the meeting, particularly the contributors to the cycling presentation.

Members were invited to attend the SWLEN social media training on 17th June. Penny agreed to send the link to Chris Ruse and Andres.

2. Approval of minutes of Monday 27th April, 2015 approved with no amendments

3. Report of Directors' meeting on financial and admin arrangements

- See separate minutes

4. Arrangements for Ham Fair

- Rota circulated and Paul Brown agreed to provide his 7-seater car to help transport the gazebo and other equipment needed out of and back to the Little House

5. July meeting

- Jill to approach Geoff Hyde to take up his offer to lead a walk on Ham Lands. Possible change of time to accommodate this, but Library booking to be maintained for the present. A future meeting may explore local food growing, fair trade etc.

6. Presentation on cycling

- First presentation given by **Tim Lennon**, communications co-ordinator for Richmond Cycling Campaign, who introduced the group to the concept of 'utility cycling' – people getting around doing ordinary things on bicycles, keeping it all as simple as possible. His presentation generated some interesting discussion on whether and when cyclists can dispense with safety gear and helmets.
- Second presentation by **Katherine Henry**, chair of RCC, who mentioned that Ham and Petersham was the only ward in the London council election where all the councillors have signed up to cycling improvements, and referred to the resurfacing of Cut Throat Alley as a small but significant improvement for local cyclists.
- Third presentation by **Justine Langford**, an architect who regularly cycles to work, highlighted the problems posed to cyclists by the hazards of the narrow roads and paths,

and the regular flooding of the tow path to Richmond. Justine has joined the Neighbourhood Plan drafting team with responsibility for transport routes, and she highlighted a number of design approaches which could be used to slow traffic and make roads safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Discussion points raised following the presentations included:

- General agreement on the need to slow traffic. Would a 20mph speed limit be effective on its own, or would other calming measures such as road humps be needed?
- When road markings are taken out, motorists give cyclists more room when they are overtaking
- Perhaps car drivers are not aware of how wide their cars are, and how far their wing mirrors stick out
- Some cyclists would like a cycleway around Richmond Park. This is not a practical possibility, but a cycleway to take cyclists off the steep hill by Kingston Gate may be considered
- Ham and Petersham has the worst transport links of all the London boroughs, so opening up safe cycling and walking routes from Ham to Richmond could cut down the traffic currently using the Petersham Road, and should be given priority

All the presenters were thanked for their very interesting and stimulating presentations, and the meeting closed at 9pm for refreshment at the Hand and Flower.

7. Next meeting

- **11th July** explore the possibility of a walk on Ham Lands led by Geoff Hyde – details to follow