

THE HAMMERSMITH SOCIETY

an amenity group concerned with planning and conservation in Hammersmith since 1962

**Minutes of the 53rd meeting Annual General Meeting held on 11 June 2015
At The Cinema of The Lyric Theatre, Lyric Square W6 at 7.30pm**

There was tour of the multi-million pound Lyric workshops before the meeting

PRESENT: Some 70 Society members, friends and guests including Andy Slaughter MP, Council Leader Stephen Cowan, The Mayor Cllr Mercy Umeh, Councillors Brown, Ffiske, Ivimy, Phibbs and representatives of various local groups.

Apologies had been received from Janis Camell, Cllr Cartwright, Cllr Dewhirst, Angela Dixon, Cllr Fennimore, Roger de Freitas, John Goodier, Rt Hon. Greg Hands MP, Julian Hillman, Cllr Holder, Evangeline Karn, Cllr Largan, Cllr Lukey, Caroline Macmillan, Lucinda MacPherson, Brian Paver, Jilly Paver, Elizabeth Phillips, Richard Scott, Joanna Thomas, Helen Thornton, Cllr Vincent, Melanie Whitlock, Anne Wright.

1. President's welcome

Hans Haenlein MBE welcomed the MP, Mayor, Councillors, members and friends and thanked the Chairman and Committee for the work undertaken throughout a very busy year.

Jessica Hepburn, outgoing Executive Director of the Lyric Theatre, gave a talk entitled 'Hammersmith and proud: the way forward for the Lyric'. Rosemary Pettit introduced Jessica and reminded the audience that the Hammersmith Society was instrumental in saving the Lyric in 1966. Jessica explained that the latest refurbishment and extension project was the largest cultural project in decades and enabled the expansion of facilities, including new film, TV and recording studios and front of house spaces. She talked about the many technical and financial difficulties involved in realising the project. Relocating the entrance was instrumental in improved public access and circulation. The cost of the project was £20m. Projects like this help to make communities vibrant, she said, and thousands more young people will be enjoying this theatre. She finished by saying that this is her gift to Hammersmith and the theatre she has loved over 14 years. (Her full talk can be read on the Hammersmith Society website.)

Hans Haenlein thanked Jessica Hepburn for all her achievements and most particularly her dedication to introducing more children and young people to the creative arts.

2. Annual Hammersmith Society Environment Awards

The Society's Vice-Chairman, Tom Ryland, described the awards scheme, listed and discussed the pros and cons of the nominated schemes and announced the winners, chosen by the committee, as follows:

Environment Award: Joint winners – Dorsett Hotel, Shepherds Bush Green – Hotel converted from former cinema. Architect: Flanagan Lawrence.

1-5-9 Waldo Rd, College Park. Three very modern houses backing onto railway line. Architect: Alfred Munkenbeck.

The **Nancye Goulden Award** for smaller developments was won by 21 Banim Street for a small infill housing scheme. Architect: Stanley Haines of Haines Phillips Architects.

The **Conservation Award**: Hammersmith Station, Hammersmith and City Line. Creating new entrance and renovation of retail units. Developer/architect: Transport for London.

Wooden Spoons were awarded for poor quality design in elevations of student housing, lack of enforcement action in relation to the citing of satellite dishes, poor quality in the provision of tree pits (third year). (Full report available on the website.)

The Mayor, Cllr Mercy Umeh, kindly presented the awards to the winners.

The outgoing chairman, Rosemary Pettit, thanked Tom Ryland on behalf of the committee for all his work for the Society.

3. Chairman's Report

Speaking to her previously circulated very comprehensive report, Rosemary Pettit highlighted ongoing issues including consultation of the local community, support to residents' associations, reassessment of the Design Review Panel, Old Oak and the north of the borough. Rosemary considered that the huge cost of HS2 to Birmingham could be better spent on smaller schemes. This year the Society has responded to over 60 planning applications or proposals. (Full report available on the website.)

4. **Minutes of the 52nd AGM held on June 19 2014** at Holy Innocents Church, Paddenswick Rd, W6 were approved.

5. **Hon Treasurer's Report and Accounts for 2014-15** had been earlier circulated with details of the Society's income, donations and subscriptions. Despite additional expenditure, assets at March 31 2015 were £4708. The accounts were approved by the meeting.

6. Election of officers and committee for 2015-2016

The following were nominated to stand for 2015-16 and were duly elected:

Hans Heinlein	President
Tom Ryland	Chairman
Melanie Whitlock	Vice-Chairman
Annabel Clarke	Secretary
Richard Tollemache	Treasurer

Committee members: Angela Clarke, William Cooper, Richard Jackson, Annabelle May, Rosemary Pettit, Richard Winterton, Derrick Wright

Hans Haenlein presented Rosemary Pettit with a bouquet of flowers to thank her for her exceptional work on behalf of the Society.

Tom Ryland thanked Rosemary Pettit for her huge contribution as chairman. He also thanked the committee for electing him and noted that he had no specific new initiatives as there was so much regular workload. However he drew attention to the Question Time Event on the consequences of the Hammersmith Flyunder, chaired by John Humphrys, to be held on 18 June as part of the London Festival of Architecture.

7. AOB

There were no questions from the floor.

The AGM was followed by drinks and light refreshments.