



THE HENBURY CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting - 8th October 2013

Minutes of meeting commenced at 19:30 in Kingsweston House

Present: Chris Carroll (Chair), Tim Parkinson (Secretary), Andrew Chugg (Treasurer) and 20 members.

Apologies: Elf Harris, Fran Greenfield, Joyce Steele, Charles Claxton, Lindsey Mansfield, Marie Page, Janet & Rob Gilmore.

Welcome and Chairman's report

Chris Carroll opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and expressed the Society's gratitude to Norman Routledge for hosting the meeting in his splendid house.

She went on to record with sorrow the death earlier this year of Graeme Parfitt and just recently of Dennis Harris. Both had been long term supporters of the Society and would be greatly missed. Chris continued with a full report on the Secret Garden Project launched in conjunction with Friends of Blaise, whose support both administratively and financially had been invaluable. She then asked Angela Brice to give a short summary to the meeting This topic with other headings of Tree Planting, Village Walk with the Bristol Civic Society, Traffic Group and the potential Activities Group is detailed in her full report at Annex A

Minutes of 2012 AGM

The Secretary apologised for his oversight in not circulating these to the members. He rapidly reviewed the one copy produced by Dennis Broe and informed the meeting of the two matters on which there had been no progress were a) The railings in Church Lane and b) Renewal of the Finger Post at the bottom of Church Lane by the mini-roundabout.

Election of Officers

There being no other nominations the existing officers Chris Carroll (Chair), Tim Parkinson (Secretary), Andrew Chugg (Treasurer) were elected without opposition to serve another year.

Report from Treasurer

Andrew Chugg reported a satisfactory position as below. The National Savings a/c was now closed and he intended to merge the two Lloyds accounts

	2011-2012 Balances	2012-2013 Expenditure / Withdrawal	2012-2013 Income / Transfers	2012-2013 Balances
Lloyds a/c 00371196	1229.47	437.38	923.13	1715.22 (404.80 Trees)
Lloyds a/c 2089404	302.95	-	-	302.95
National Savings (Trees)	404.8	404.8	-	0
TOTALS	2270.2 + interest			2018.17

Activities Group

Chris Carroll said that at present arrangements for meetings and events fell very heavily on the Chair and Secretary and we were looking for other volunteers to help in this and harness the evident enthusiasm for what the Society stood for.

The attendance list was passed around and 15 members indicated that they were willing to help

Next Meeting

XMAS SOCIAL Saturday 21st December in the village Hall at 7pm. £5 donation to the Village Hall fund.

Offerings of Xmas fare would be gratefully received. Please let us know if you can do a few minutes 'turn', e.g. read a poem, do a magic trick, play a tune or do a dance! A few of us are practising for the event. We hope this will be a fun event as well as making money for the village hall, which desperately needs our help, please bring friends and family

AoB

Tim Forester introduced himself as the owner of Henbury Lodge Hotel. He said he was concerned that the website contained material about the vision of the Society which he interpreted as being hostile to the recent changes and improvements to the Hotel. The members present assured him that there was no such policy and Mr Forester undertook to point the secretary who is also the web master to the particular page(s) causing him concern

There being no other advertised business Chris Carroll closed the AGM at approximately 20:15 hrs.

Norman Routledge, our host, then gave a short talk on the history of Kingsweston House and followed that with a conducted tour of the amazing features of the House and the tremendous amount of restoration and refurbishment Norman was responsible for. Everyone was greatly impressed by the work and what had been achieved.

Annex A

Chairperson's review 2012-2013

Our Exciting New Project: Blaise Secret Garden

Thanks to the hard work of a team of our members and Friends of Blaise, we managed to begin work on the derelict walled kitchen garden in Blaise Estate in June. The gardens were Established in 1800 and take 'center stage' in Henbury Conservation Area. After 4 years of rejected proposals we finally got the 'go ahead' from the council. Without the help and support of Tim Parkinson and Charles Claxton this would not have been possible. The aim is to run the site as a community garden with open days for members and the public to plant, harvest and clear the site. It's a place where our local community can meet for tea a chat and sometimes cake ! In the future we're hoping to work with local schools and have already had children sowing seeds and harvesting on their family days out. We are in the process of reglazing one greenhouse and polytunnelling the other. If you feel like helping the winter work team on the 2nd Saturday and 4th Sunday of the month 1-4pm please join us through the rose garden entrance, next to Blaise House. Wood workers and 'handy men/women are desperately needed. Tea makers are most welcome! Phone: 01173308330 leave a message and we'll return the call.

The story of our progress can be seen at:

Website:sites.google.com/site/blaiseseecretgarden

Tree planting on Wilderness (conservation area this side of Aldi)

After our interesting wildlife talk kindly given by Neil Hutton, Neil walked with a group of members to the Wilderness area to decide which trees we wanted to plant. We all thought reasonable sized trees were best (less likely to sustain damage). Oak and wild cherry were considered suitable as our natives encourage hundreds of insect species helping with biodiversity and encouraging wildlife. We will announce the planting date. One tree will be planted in memory of Marguerite Tonkin.

July History Walk

In order to encourage an interest in our wonderful area from all over Bristol, we invited the Bristol Civic Society to join us. We had positive feedback from people who enjoyed this immensely. A huge thanks to Lisa and Tim Parkinson for their hospitality and buffet. Next year a suggestion was to visit Blaise Hamlet, Blaise Dairy Garden and the new Blaise Secret Garden, having a snack and wine somewhere at the end of the walk. Any suggestions?

Traffic group

This group has worked hard to produce results. Improvements are now on the Neighbourhood

Partnership waiting list.

Activities Group

A large chunk of our time is now spent helping to run the Community Garden. Volunteers to help organize events and distribute leaflets would be greatly appreciated. Usually there are 4 events a year.

This would improve our events and bring the community closer together. A few hours of your time would make a huge difference. Please phone Chris on 01173308330 or Tim on 01179508033.