



BROOKMILL ROAD CONSERVATION AREA SOCIETY AGM

6.15pm on Wednesday 19th June 2024

Held at Blueprint for All (Formerly The Stephen Lawrence Centre)
39 Brookmill Road, SE8 4HU

MINUTES

1. Present at AGM : Members: Robin Cross, Juliet Johnson, Julia Rowntree, Chris Johnson, Clare Cowen.
Non-members: Roman Aspeek Bloor, Lawrence Beale Collins.
- 1.1 Apologies for absence: Fred Aylward, David Aylward, Anne Caron-Delion, Adrian Ingram, Alison Guppy, Xanthe Mosley, Matthew Mosley, Verity Rowsell, Helena Russell.
2. The Minutes of the AGM dated 13th June 2023 were approved.
3. Chair's Report from June 2023 to June 2024 was presented by Julia Rowntree and summarised:
 - Issues of conservation in the area.
 - Planning applications reviewed.
It was noted that refusal of permission for a roof extension at 100 Cranbrook Road was upheld on appeal in August 2023.
 - Consultations and questionnaires responded to.
 - Local meetings and liaison with councillors and other societies.
 - Plans for the coming year.

Julia Rowntree was warmly thanked. Report accompanies the minutes and will be posted on the website.

4. Secretary's Report
Juliet Johnson spoke of the sad death of Ivo Mosley, a founding member, on 31st January 2024, and that his funeral at Honor Oak was very well attended, and beautifully led.



- 4.1 Three new Members joined. Membership is 17.
- 4.2 Members are drawn from within and beyond the boundaries of the CA and sign the constitution, agreeing to conserve the key characteristics and architectural unity of the area.
5. Treasurer's Report (Given by JR in Xanthe Mosley's absence.)
BRCA Soc has no Bank account. Costs are supported by donations from members. This may change as and when the committee sees the need.
6. Election of Officers
Officers serve for a two-year period. Last election was in 2022. Elections are due this year.
No new nominations had been received.

With no abstentions and no votes against, the three existing officers were re-elected for a period of two years from June 2024 to June 2026.

Chair – Julia Rowntree
Treasurer – Xanthe Mosley
Secretary – Juliet Johnson

7. Any Other Business
 - 7.1 Robin Cross highlighted the value of the Appeal Inspector's wording in the Decision Document refusing permission on appeal for a roof extension at 100 Cranbrook Road, opposite the Brookmill Pub. This was valuable in its clarity and the strength of grounds for dismissal. These can be applied to all streets in the CA, meaning unity of the area's roofscape can be protected and a "gap-toothed" streetscape avoided in those streets without existing extensions.
 - 7.2 Lawrence Beale Collins of Healthy Rivers Project spoke about the planned Brookmill Park and Three Rivers Clean-up.

The Meeting closed at c 6.40pm and was followed at 7.0pm by the talk, attended in person and online.



Talk by Nick Higham on his book 'The Mercenary River': Private Greed and Public Good. A History of London's Water.

Hosted in partnership with Brockley Society and Blueprint for All who agreed a community hire rate for the venue in exchange for local promotion of their workplace facilities.

This was the first hybrid meeting held by the Society with online attendance made possible by Brockley Society's technical lead, Richard Freeston.

Attendance:

- 36 people attended in all and 4 watched on line.
- 44 people registered for the talk. 11 did not attend.
- 3 people attended without booking.

Juliet Johnson introduced Nick Higham, Journalist and former BBC Correspondent, and News Analyst.

Nick described how his research into London's water supply started during lockdown, inspired by traces of the New River near his home in Islington. His talk described the history of water supply in London: the vital role of the New River, individual heroes and villains, fortunes made, and centuries-long controversies still raging today regarding management of this vital resource.

The Blueprint building was a resonant location for the talk. It is on the site of a former Kent waterworks with a view over the Ravensbourne towards the James Engine House, still pumping water into the mains from the deep wells sunk in the 19th Century. This represented 'hallowed ground' to the Speaker. Water from the Ravensbourne wells were once regarded as the 'gold standard of water purity' in London.

Audience members asked 14 Questions, succinctly answered.

A good number of books were sold by Nick and Deborah Higham. The meeting ended at c 8.55pm.

Lauren Watson at Blueprint for All was warmly thanked for use of the venue. Attendees all enjoyed views over the Ravensbourne and the park in the summer evening light.