

**Brentham Society**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting (2018/19)**  
Tuesday 3rd March 2020, 8.00 p.m. Brentham Club

**Members in attendance:** 60-70 plus Committee

**Committee members present:** Gina Mallin (Chair), Andy Akerman (Treasurer), Martin Mortimore, Alan Henderson, Clive Evans, Barn Cleave, Jo Bradley

**Apologies:** None

**1. Welcome**

GM welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Talk by Steve Pound**

Steve gave an entertaining talk about his time in parliament.

**3. Front Garden Awards - presented by Steve Pound**

Laura Mackiewicz announced the winners of the Garden awards.

Spring Award – 26 Ludlow Road (see below)

Summer Award – 27 Woodfield Crescent, - Richard Tymkiw

Autumn award – 44 Denison Road – Tonia and Simeon Gann

Rose Bowl – 26 Ludlow Road

Mandy and Peter Walker (unable to be present to receive award)

**4. Refreshments**

**5. The Brentham Society, 50 Years in less than 15 minutes – Sue Elliott**

Sue gave an illustrated talk covering the key events of The Brentham Society in the 50 years since its formation in 1970.

**6. Minutes of the 2019 AGM and Matters Arising**

The minutes had been distributed to those present and their acceptance as a true record of the meeting was duly agreed by a show of hands. There were no matters arising.

**7. Treasurer's Report (Andy Akerman)**

Thanks were given to David Ballard for auditing the accounts.

Overall, the accounts remained healthy. It was noted that the apparent drop in subscriptions and donations over the previous year was due to the £1,000 donation from the film company in 2017-18.

### **8. Chair's Report (Gina Mallin)**

Gina ran through the successful events of the year, including:

- Strawberry Tea – thanks to Alison and Mathew McAllister
- 3 editions of Brentham News – thanks to Martin Mortimore and all contributors
- Christmas cards and chocolates bought, wrapped, and delivered to senior residents who live alone – thanks to Maggie Bukowski
- Helping with May Day
- Garden judging – thanks to Vicky Snodin, Sue Hulme & Laura Mackiewicz
- Walks and Talks – thanks to Clive Evans, Sue Elliott, and Rosanna Henderson
- Ongoing liaison with The Brentham Club, in particular working to refurbish the Tower with the hope of having our archive on display later this year – thanks to Clive Evans and Alan Henderson
- Planning, our most important function being to increase awareness and help protect the character and charm of Brentham Garden Suburb.
- Enforcement – a meeting in August brokered by Cllr Linda Burke with Alex Jackson (administrative head of Ealing Council Planning Department) to discuss lack of enforcement. We encourage all residents to remain the “eyes and ears” of the estate in order to achieve its conservation.

Less successful - last year the ownership of the western end of the passageway between Brunner Road and Brentham Way, together with some parts of the nearby twittens and a small allotment, was put up for sale by auction. The Committee is of the view that preserving the passageways and twittens is extremely important with regard to preserving the history and character of the Estate. Whilst we do not generally seek to own land, we thought that this passageway is particularly important since it is not only a well-used through route but also provides access to the backlands. We did bid, supported by a local resident, but in the event, we were unsuccessful.

Going forward, the loss of a Conservation Officer requires us to be ever more vigilant in maintaining the integrity and natural beauty of Brentham. Ealing declared a climate emergency last year which will affect us all, from travel methods to how best to integrate electric charging points on Brentham – it's been difficult to get a policy on this from The Council.

We have a wonderful opportunity here in Brentham to be part of the solution to how to live with global climate change and its consequences. According to a Times article, we could focus on 3 crucial species that are proxies for the rest of nature, and by saving them we save the rest of the species too. What parent does not want their child to see and marvel at a hedgehog or a sparrow!? Brentham is perfect for fostering wildlife and engaging with nature.

The Committee is short on the ground – we desperately need new members preferably with an interest in Planning, and we particularly need a Secretary and someone who might want to help Pat with continuing the National Association of Garden Suburbs started by Geoff.

One of the saddest things to happen last year was the death of Geoff Baxendale, the quiet but forceful committee member who did and brought so much to the Planning and other work of supporting Brentham that he and Pat have loved for so many years. I want to pay tribute to Geoff for everything that he brought – integrity, kindness, and a strong sense of doing the right thing.

I am stepping down, and I welcome Jo Bradley who will pick up the role of Chair and take us forward.

I want to close by thanking some incredible people I've been lucky enough to work alongside – dedicated Committee members who do far more than most of Brentham residents will ever know, Mike Gandon for doing Membership for another year, the people who lend us their gardens and all the effort that entails... and the other stalwarts who chip in. And Pat and Heather, no longer on the actual committee but continue as Council Panel Members and Brentham advisers to be the most knowledgeable, kind, and committed people always out responding to calls for assistance on how to manage the Planning process.

## **7. Election of Committee 2019/209**

The BS Constitution allows for between four and nine members and up to four co-opted members. Two members have resigned from this year's Committee – Gina Mallin and Maggie Bukowski and one sadly passed away – Geoff Baxendale. The following members of the previous BS Committee were willing to stand again:

Andy Akerman (Treasurer)	55 Meadvale Road
Jo Bradley * (Projects)	9 Woodfield Crescent
Barn Cleave (Planning)	31 Denison Road
Clive Evans (Projects)	50 Denison Road
Alan Henderson (Archive & Website)	47 Meadvale Road
Martin Mortimore (Newsletter)	54 Fowlers Walk

\* co-opted during 2017-18

Steve Jenkins (119 Fowlers Walk) offered himself up as a committee member and his self-nomination was duly accepted.

No further nominations for new members had been received. The Chair proposed that unless there were any objections, an en bloc vote should be taken. Their election was proposed by a show of hands.

## **8. Any Other Business**

There was no other business and only a couple of questions raised from the floor.