



Minutes

Merton Heritage Forum

Tuesday 6 March 2018

Merton Heritage Centre, 2nd floor, Morden Library, Merton Civic Centre

Present:

Cllr Nick Draper (Chair), Cllr David Dean, Cllr Philip Jones, Cllr John Bowcott, Cllr Geraldine Stanford, Joyce Bellamy (MCGC&H, Mit.Soc, LHP>), John Hawks (Merton Priory Trust), Cyril Maidment (Wimbledon Society & Merton Priory Trust) Norman Plastow (Wimbledon Windmill) John Veale (John Innes Society) Tony Scott (Merton Historical Society) Tony Burton and John Strover (MCGC&H) Anthony Hopkins (LBM), Sarah Gould (Minutes), Jill Tyndale (LBM)

Apologies:

Anthony Hopkins; Cypren Edmunds, John Davis, Sandra Vogel, Duncan Rabagliati

Item	Actions
<p>Minutes and Matters arising:</p> <p>TB mentioned that the Canons project had not been raised at the recent community forum meeting. ND confirmed that an update would be delivered in due course.</p> <p>JB – Re: Wandle Vistas project – the project group was very impressed by the view from St. Mark’s car park in Mitcham – this viewing platform should really be celebrated and more opportunities given for public access. ND said he would pass this on to Paul McGarry.</p> <p>TB – The project report was launched at the Wandle Valley Forum meeting on 25 April – this includes details of key vistas in the area.</p> <p>JT – would still welcome feedback on the Local List.</p> <p>1. Additions to the local list.</p> <p>JT stressed that this document is a work in progress and has to be fitted in around other Future Merton commitments.</p> <p>TB asked for his Mitcham recommendations to be included.</p> <p>The group considered the merits of properties recommended for addition to the list and provided JT with feedback.</p>	

Kellaway House, 326 London Rd. Mitcham – TB: this is the last property of its kind in the area between lower and upper Mitcham and has recently been used by the local CAB – the Forum agreed that it should be added to the local list.

Mitcham Police Station, 58 Cricket Green – SG needs to check council minutes for more info on this building.

4, 5, 6 & Upper Green West – some group members queried the architectural value of the properties. JT felt it was worth including and ND was happy to be overruled.

5, 7, 9 and 11 Upper Green East – TB favoured addition to the list as these mature properties are an important part of the history of Mitcham It is also important to locally list properties of different character.

Ridgway Stables, 93 Ridgway, Wimbledon

ND queried if a change of use was planned for the building. NP – there is a possibility of short term use for storage and retail.

The group approved the local listing of the **Manor Club, Kingston Road** and the **John Innes Cricket Pavilion**.

The Swan Pub, 89 Ridgway, Wimbledon

NP – the entrance porch may have come from an important house – this needs to be checked – he will forward info to JT.

The group approved the local listing of the **Trolleybus traction pole, 241, Burlington Rd.**

Members rejected local listing of the **Vicarage, Copse Hill** – JT – this building has been sold and the new owners want to demolish it.

JV and DD felt the building was unsatisfactory for listing. JT – it was built to act as a home and meeting space.

The Trafalgar pub, High Path – ND felt this tiny, well-run pub was apt for listing.

Morden Court Parade – the group approved addition but queried why these Art Deco buildings have not been put forward for statutory listing.

The group rejected listing of **30 Malcolm Rd. SW19** which was not deemed sufficiently special.

The Street lamp standards near Bertram Cottages and 66 Bathgate Rd. SW19 were both approved for listing.

Cast Iron Sewer Vent, Southside – NP – this is of local interest, particularly as this is one of the first structures of its type.

Art Deco Commercial Buildings, Lombard Road – ND – these include the BOC works which has links to Violette Szabo GC (SG to provide further info.)

Forum members to send any additional feedback or recommendations for listing to JT asap

The group thanked JT for all her work on the local list.

2. Commemorating 100 years of votes for women.

SG told the group about plans to mark the centenary of votes for women in the UK and to raise awareness of the local women's suffrage movement.

The Heritage Service is a partner in the Digital Drama "100 banners" project and has already staged a very successful banner making workshop (8 February.) SG was very honoured that this event was attended by Helen Pankhurst (Gt granddaughter of Emmeline) and Philippa Bilton, (a relative of suffragette Emily Wilding Davison.) The workshop was very well attended and participants produced 3 beautiful banners which featured in the March4Women on 4 March and will also be exhibited at the Albert Hall and London School of Economics (Women's Library.) The event also generated a lot of good publicity for the Library and Heritage Service.

3 March - SG organised a suffrage themed event at Merton Arts Space as part of the BBC Civilisations Festival – this included the screening of suffragette films from the London Screen Archives, heritage displays and a debate featuring suffrage experts from Royal Holloway College, Dorking Museum and U3A. This attracted over 90 attendees despite the snow, including the granddaughter of Wimbledon suffragette, Rose Lamartine Yates.

SG has been working with the Museum of Wimbledon, the John Innes Society, U3A and East Surrey Family History Society to produce a suffrage centenary programme with events for all ages. The main programme will run from May to October and will include:

- exhibitions about women's suffrage in Merton (at the Coach House, Merton Park; the Museum of Wimbledon and Merton Heritage Centre)
- the screening of archive film
- banner/pennant making sessions for school groups
- guided walks of suffrage sites
- a series of local history talks at venues throughout the borough
- a play by Attic Theatre about Merton suffragettes (Merton Arts Space)
- reminiscence work to capture memories of voting
- the John Innes Society are hoping to get a rose named after Rose Lamartine Yates (this will be planted in a suitable venue such as John Innes Park.) They also want to stage a recreation of a suffragette garden party in the grounds of Dorset Hall during the summer.

A brochure publicising the suffrage programme will be released at the forthcoming Heritage Discovery Day.

3. Merton Heritage Discovery Day 2018.

SG updated the group on plans for the annual Heritage Discovery Day scheduled for 12 May (12.30 – 4.30). She thanked the Living Wandle Project, Merton Priory Trust, the Salvation Army (Wimbledon), the Capability Brown Society, Merton Historical Society and Wandle Industrial Museum for generously helping to fund publicity for the event. The JC Decaux panels across Merton will feature the event poster from late April to mid May and SG is circulating press releases, email copy, material for Radio Jackie, plus the usual mail shots to faith and heritage groups, schools and residents

SG would be grateful if Forum members could help to promote the suffrage centenary events.

associations. Promotional help from Forum members would also be appreciated.

SG has already taken a number of bookings for stalls in the heritage marketplace, including some from groups who have not taken part in previous H.D. days. Attendees include Merton Historical Society, Merton Priory Trust, the John Innes Society, the Salvation Army, Sutton Black History Group, AECHO, Greenwich Leisure, the Friends of Wimbledon Park, Southside House and the Museum of Wimbledon but more bookings are due. The event will feature children's craft activities, the Wandle Treasures Map, a series of bitesize local history talks, exhibitions and workshops. We will be launching our women's suffrage centenary programme and the suffragettes will feature as a theme for part of the event.

SG has booked a security guard for the day and has also arranged for stallholders to have access to the Civic Centre car park, plus volunteer support if needed. SG will send out details of the programme, access arrangements and other guidance for participants in due course.

4. Merton Heritage Strategy – Review and updates.

ND gave a general review of what has been achieved since the strategy was launched. Developments include:

- SG – Merton Heritage Service is now enjoying its highest public profile thanks to the success of recent HLF projects, annual Merton Heritage Discovery Day and increasing partnership work with heritage stakeholders and community groups.
- Both the Merton Memories project and Carved in Stone (Merton during WW1) have been incredibly successful.
- The Heritage Service and a number of local heritage groups are now using the IZI travel app to highlight places of interest and heritage provision.
- £4million of lottery funding has been secured for the Canons project
- The Living Wandle Project is concluding and has supported multiple local heritage initiatives to celebrate the history and increase public access to the river and its historic surroundings
- (JH /ND) Merton Priory Trust has secured funding and work is ongoing to ensure the creation of a visitor centre for the Priory Chapterhouse.
- Merton is one of the boroughs chosen to receive funding as part of the Mayoral London Borough of Culture programme.
- ND – access to HLF and other funding for heritage projects in Merton has increased dramatically from when LBM had priority status.

TB emphasised that the Heritage Strategy should be a collaborative venture to deliver for the borough and not purely a council document. He suggested adding a column to the action plan to allow for regular progress updates.

ND confirmed that this will be taken into account when preparing the new strategy.

JB – it is important to keep an eye on small memorials and structures which may be under threat – e.g Dunblane memorial tree, Mitcham, which was recently surrounded by rubbish. Also the group should consider where work is

Anyone wanting a stall, or event info should contact SG by 20 April.

SG to send full event details – forum help with promotion would be much appreciated.

<p>scheduled / under consideration to allow time for ensuring protective measures before work actually starts – details can then be passed on to contractors.</p> <p>5. Round table discussion.</p> <p>JT – St.Mary’s, Wimbledon has been in contact regarding the possibility of getting their memorials registered and protected.</p> <p>CM referred to 27 listed monuments in the area where maintenance is a problem, partly due to cost – it is necessary to check with Historic England about what can be done.</p> <p>TB referred to plans for the former Mitcham Fire Station – this is an historic structure which needs an appropriate use as it is a community and heritage asset. The building is on the market but the council is not involved in the purchase. The default position should be that the building reverts to LBM in order capitalise on its community potential. ND queried whether something could be included in the London Borough of Culture work.</p> <p>TSc – appropriate use of the old fire station and a rebuilt Cricketers pub would only benefit the area.</p> <p>ND – re. Priory Chapterhouse – work should have finished at the end of April but had been delayed. The grand opening is now planned for August/September. Phase 2 for equipping the interior will also be costly but the achievements of Phase 1 can be maximised to draw in more funding.</p> <p>JB – the White Hart, Mitcham is listed Grade II but has recently been left in a poor state. Encroaching buddleia has now been removed . Rendering is falling off and needs to be replaced but appropriate materials must be used. JT has checked but there is no preservation order in place and she needs to check on the relevant contacts.</p>	
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Date of next meeting: 7 – 8.30pm, 16 October 2018, Merton Heritage Centre, Morden Library