



Newsletter

October 2020

Editors: Fiona Fowler & Maya Donelan

No. 107

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

This is the last letter I will write to you as chairman as my 5 year stint ends at the AGM in November. It has been a great privilege and I have enjoyed myself enormously. It has been a most interesting time and I have learnt a lot about Fulham. I first came to live here in 1964 and thought I knew the area quite well but I have met some very knowledgeable people and discovered a lot of new and unexpected places. I thank all my colleagues for their help and support and all our members for their comments and their company. I will still be around. I remain on the Committee and for the next couple of years will continue to edit the newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this issue. Caroline Marston is fourth generation of the local family building company, Marston Properties, and has written about the work her company undertook during the war to keep Fulham in good repair. And did you know that Fulham has a link with Anna of *The King and I* fame? You can read about that, too. In addition, we update you on local issues and you will not be surprised this includes quite a lot about transport.

Covid-19 does not seem to be improving as we had all hoped and the restrictions on meetings sadly make planning any events or activities almost impossible until Spring 2021 at the earliest.

Annual General Meeting

The Fulham Society's AGM this year is on **Monday 23 November at 6 pm** and, as you will all appreciate and understand, this year we cannot meet in person. It will therefore be an online Zoom meeting. It will be shorter than usual with no speaker - and no wine afterwards!

Resolutions will be put forward to approve the minutes of last year's AGM, the Accounts for 2019-20 and to appoint the Independent reviewer. Elections will take place for the Society's Vice Presidents, Officers and the Executive Committee. See page 11 of this Newsletter for details and links to the papers.

Please advise us if you would like to attend by emailing info@fulhamsociety.org. We will provide the necessary Zoom log-in details to all those who have registered to attend the day before the meeting.

We understand that a virtual meeting excludes those with no computer or who cannot join a Zoom meeting but I am sure you understand that we have little choice. If the regulations allow it, we hope you can get together with friends and perhaps "attend" that way.

Fiona Fowler
Chairman

A LOCAL BUILDING COMPANY

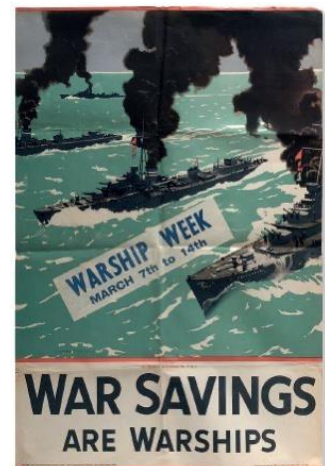
Marston Properties celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. Set up by William James Marston, a zinc roofer by trade, in 1895 at 29 Hugon Road, it is still run by the Marston family. In later life, William would recall Fulham in the 1880s as little more than a semi-rural backwater: “I remember Wandsworth Bridge Road when there were low fences on either side enclosing orchards; it was a wonderfully picturesque sight to see the fruit blossom on the trees”, he recounted. “I can well remember walking over fields on which Fulham Power Station now stands and seeing men shooting rabbits” (an area now occupied by Sainsburys, The Harbour Club and Regent on the River flats).

Over the years Marstons have worked on many familiar Fulham properties including the 1934 Town Hall extension, the Peterborough Estate Lion Houses, the Fulham Maternity Home (now The Parsons Green NHS walk-in Centre) and many, many others. This year the country has been commemorating the end of World War II so an account of its work during the war seemed relevant and the present Managing Director, Caroline Marston, sent us this account:

The Heroes of ‘first aid repairs’

On 16 September 1940, John Wilfrid Marston, managing director of WJ Marston & Son, sat down to compose a letter to Mrs Kay, recently appointed manager of the company’s new hotel on the Kent coast. “The bombing in London is certainly rather terrible”, he began, but “so far, we have been rather fortunate.”

It had been a grim week. War had been declared a year earlier, but had only become a reality for most Britons with the start of the ‘Blitz’ – Germany’s aerial onslaught that filled each night with wailing sirens, bolts to the air raid shelter, oil bombs, fire bombs, high explosive bombs, homes destroyed, factories and shops wrecked, towns and cities left in ruins.



The first bombs to hit Fulham came in the early hours of Monday 9 September 1940, a burst of deadly explosives, one of which destroyed a whole block of Fulham Hospital. There followed a direct hit on the turbine house at Fulham Power Station, causing serious damage to the plant. Then, a horrific incident at midnight at the Munster Road end of St Dionis Road - a delayed action bomb, next to a group of volunteer ARP wardens working to rescue the injured, suddenly exploded: ten wardens died.

The bombing raids soon settled into a pattern, with German aircraft attacking targets in Fulham nearly every night. As darkness fell, the sirens started up and before long, the throbbing of aircraft engines was heard overhead; workplaces were obliged to close early to let people reach home in daylight.

The night of Friday 13 September 1940 was particularly gruesome: among a number of bombs that exploded, a large surface air raid shelter in Bucklers Alley, off Haldane Road, designed to hold 1,200 people suffered a direct hit. Thirty-eight people lost their lives.

In anticipation of the onslaught, the local war emergency committee had divided Fulham into sectors for the purpose of emergency first aid repairs. JW Marston was appointed to co-ordinate repair work for the South Fulham area including the industrial parts of the borough. "We are extremely busy," he wrote, "repairing and reinstating houses in order that the people can live in reasonable comfort."

Each morning, Mary Stutely, secretary to JW, received instructions from the Town Hall outlining the damage done in Fulham's southern sector the previous night. JW would arrive in the office, examine the list and ascertain which of the panel firms, Marstons included, was best suited to deal with each of the damaged properties. Calm-headed, JW would spend the rest of the day organising builders, sorting out problems, keeping up people's spirits and getting the job done: JW was in his element. Even in reporting the scale of attack to Mrs Kay, he used a light touch: "When you know that in Fulham alone we had 300 bombs in three days, you can well imagine it was not exactly a health resort."

There was no shortage of work that week: a house did not necessarily have to be hit to suffer damage. A bomb in the vicinity could bring down ceilings, blast off doors and smash windows, slates came off roofs, and soot tumbled down chimneys, coating everything in black dust. Water and gas would be cut off if a bomb damaged the mains. Shattered windows posed more of a problem as winter set in.

Householders were rightly made the priority for repairs, but not everyone appreciated the directive. JW had to inform Manbre and Garton on Willowbank Wharf, that they would have to wait. In spite of the longstanding relationship between the two businesses, they never instructed Marstons again.

Given the scale of damage, speed and efficiency were the order of the day: foreman Percy Deacon recalled leaving the yard each morning with the lorry stacked high with boards and always with his tin hat. Sent off to board up the windows of a bomb-blasted wine merchants one early morning, he had virtually completed the task by the time the owner arrived to open up the premises. With materials in short supply, staff relied on their wits. On another occasion, Percy was sent to Sloane Street to build a shelter for a client's bedridden wife; his solution was to strengthen the uprights on her four-poster bed and place corrugated iron over the top.

Over the four months leading up to Christmas 1940, 395 high explosive bombs and forty-two anti-aircraft shells landed on Fulham. Between thirty and forty Marston's staff spent 25,000 hours repairing doors, windows, walls, ceilings, steps and leaks for properties across Fulham, and elsewhere, as well as building or reinforcing air raid shelters. The company's own offices experienced several near misses, with Fulham Power Station and Sands End Gas Works – strategic targets subjected to repeated attack – only a few streets away. A few days before Christmas 1940, the borough engineer reported to the war emergency committee that, in just fifteen weeks, the combined forces of Marstons, other local builders and the council's own workforce had carried out first aid repairs to a total of 8,823 houses in Fulham: a staggering achievement.

"I am sure that Mister Hitler would be quite disappointed at the comparatively normal state of things even after quite a severe shake up," wrote JW, "In fact, it only makes us all the more determined to see this job through."

Warship Weeks were British National Savings campaigns with the aim of a Royal Navy warship being adopted by a civil community. Other national campaigns included the 'Wings for Victory' week to purchase bomber planes, a 'Spitfire Week' to purchase fighter planes, a 'War Weapons Week' and a 'Tanks for Attack' week. Marstons built the temporary structures out of scaffolding and canvas that were erected in Fulham Broadway for 'Warship Week' and 'Wings for Victory week' in 1943 in front of what was the Granville Theatre. Speeches were made and bands played for the week of the fund raising. Fulham raised £1,127.00 (£51,726 today) for Wings for Victory.



A FULHAM EDUCATION

In the summer of 1862 a boarding school in Fulham took in a new pupil, a little girl who had arrived from Singapore. The child was Avis, aged 8, daughter of Anna Leonowens, the Victorian governess to the Siamese Court, subject of the romantic musical *The King and I*.

Anna had taken Avis's younger brother Louis with her to Bangkok, arranging for Avis to be educated at Fulham House School for Girls, off Fulham High Street. The school was run by the four Miss Kings, who had taken over in 1838 from the three Miss Loves, known as the Three Graces. The building, dated to c.1740, had been a school since 1804, remaining so until 1877. The pleasant house still exists today, near Putney Bridge, as the Army Reserve Centre. Why Anna chose Fulham House for Avis is unknown, but it may well have been on someone's recommendation.

Avis was born in Western Australia, but in 1856 the family moved to Singapore. After the sudden death of her husband, Anna supported herself and two children by running a school for British officers' children, but it proved financially unviable. So Anna accepted a teaching post to the Siamese Court. Anna and her son sailed for Bangkok, leaving Avis behind until her passage to England was due. A kindly American neighbour, Francis Cobb, saw the child aboard the *Ranee*, in the care of a Mr and Mrs Heritage: and wrote to Anna that the girl left 'merry as a lark'.

Anna wrote to her 'Dearest Avy' in Fulham, reminding her to be 'good and obedient'. Louis, 7, wrote news of the Court, his pony, the dog and cat. Royal pupils sent her 'little tokens'. Sources state that Avis visited Fulham Palace and played with the children of Bishop Archibald Tait, whose wife was noted for her interest in education and welfare. Certainly Mr Cobb, who had looked after Avis in Singapore, visited Avis at school in Fulham, breaking his journey home to America.

In 1867, an exhausted Anna left Siam and sailed for Ireland and relatives. She left her son at school near Dublin; went on to England, removed Avis, now 13, from Fulham; and took her to America; where she supported them both by running a school on Staten Island and giving travel lectures. Louis ran away from school and somehow joined them in America. As an adult he returned to Bangkok, where one of his old schoolfellows was now King, then went north working in the timber trade and became a wealthy teak magnate.

At 24 Avis married a rich Scottish banker, moving with him to Nova Scotia, then Montreal. Anna followed them to Canada. Her brother, after the death of his first wife, arranged for his two small children to be brought up in Canada with Avis's growing brood.



This is the last that we know of Avis; but her brother retired to England in 1913, living in South Kensington until his death in 1919 during the Spanish flu' epidemic. He is buried with his second wife in Brompton Cemetery.

Note: Avis was a cousin of film star Boris Karloff, through her mother's sister.

Carol Irving 2020

SANDS END ARTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

The centre is located in the north-west corner of South Park. It is nearly complete and due to open in 2021. It consists of a purpose-built main community hall, common room, café and outdoor area. There is also purpose-built childcare provision with appropriate facilities such as toilets, storage and secure outdoor play area.



The Council plans to grant a 99 year lease at a peppercorn rent to the SEACC Trust. The Trust will then be responsible for developing and operating the new centre.

The Council is currently advertising for a manager to run the centre. Income will be generated from various sources: an anchor tenant operating the childcare provision; a community café; hiring out the facilities to organisations and individuals to deliver activities for the community; and fundraising. All activities will be fully accessible to the whole community.



A consultation exercise is being undertaken to discover what people really want from the centre. As a result of Covid-19 the previous consultation was put on hold in March 2020. Open Age is particularly interested in what the older members of the local community would like to see and have circulated another questionnaire. Do please complete it by the end of October if you can. The link to the questionnaire is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZJHYNRF>.

PLANNING

New Plans for Edith Summerskill House

A 20-storey tower with 133 flats, featuring distinctive arched windows and a ground floor “arcade”, will be built on the Clement Attlee Estate (2020/01283/FUL). It is the latest attempt to replace Edith Summerskill House, a tower block built in the sixties, vacated in 2011 and demolished in 2017.

A previous application was submitted in 2016 but the process was very protracted with extended discussion about section 106 payments and a judicial review requested by a resident delaying final approval until December of last year. The latest design is very similar to that previously submitted. 80% of the flats will be social rented; 20% will be intermediate housing; 10% of the flats will be designed for wheelchair residents.



The council will transfer the site to the Peabody Housing Trust, a housing association, in the event of planning permission being granted.

The buildings of Clem Attlee Court were named after the Attlee cabinet at the time. There are 19 high and low rise buildings with such names as Jim Griffiths, Manny Shinwell, Margaret Herbison, Hugh Dalton, Stafford Cripps, Michael Stewart, Hugh Gaitskell, Ellen Wilkinson etc

Edith Summerskill was born on 19 April 1901. She studied medicine at King’s before qualifying as a doctor at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School in 1924, one of the first women to do so. She married a fellow doctor, Jeffrey Samuel, the following year, but unusually for the time did not take his name. Their children also went by their mother's surname (her daughter, Shirley, also became a doctor and then a MP).

Edith became a politician and after unsuccessful attempts at Putney and Bury, she was elected to Parliament for West Fulham in 1938 thanks to the working women's vote (after 1955 when the Fulham West constituency was abolished she moved to Warrington). She sat in the House of Commons continuously until 1961, when she was created a life peer. A passionate and outspoken feminist, in her first speech to the House of Commons, Edith said:



There is a saying that women are no good at figures, that they have no head for figures; but I am reminded that throughout this country in thousands of homes the Chancellor of the Exchequer is a woman.

Summerskill served in Clement Attlee’s Labour government of 1945–50 but was never in the Cabinet. She championed such causes as equal rights and equal pay for women, birth control and the availability of painless childbirth methods, and a wife’s fair share of her husband’s property (secured with the Married Women’s Property Act, 1964). She campaigned relentlessly for a better health provision for all. A long-term advocate for healthcare reform, Edith took a prominent role in preparing Labour – and the country – for the task of social reform that would come at the war’s end and the formation of a National Health Service in 1948.

Fulham Town Hall

Plans to turn Fulham Town Hall into a 90-room “boutique” hotel and events venue have been passed by councillors. Exterior and interior features of the “ornate” grade II*-listed landmark, opposite Fulham Broadway Station, will largely be preserved. Blueprints show that the first-floor committee rooms and concert hall will become co-working office spaces, and a public restaurant will face Fulham Road on the ground floor. Its old debating chamber will continue to be used for events such as weddings.

Included in the plans is the extension of four storeys of the building into the rear car park and to have a one-story roof extension, stepped so that it is not visible from Fulham Road.

Imperial Studios

The building was built as a workshop around 1935 as the works and garage of the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company. It is a long single storey building with a tall pitched roof that makes it the equivalent of two storey height. It has little architectural value, but is historically linked to the running of the gasworks site, and is of a sympathetic scale to the adjoining buildings in Imperial Square and Harwood Terrace.



The Fulham Society will be sorry to see the old buildings go as they are quite interesting and provide an attractive entrance to Imperial Road but we realise that the building is not in good repair and we are pleased the redevelopment of the site will provide workspace for small and medium sized businesses.



However, we are less happy with the design of the proposed building - we find it somewhat top heavy and lowering. We understand that you cannot push the upper floors backwards, because of the housing in Imperial Square, but a lighter, less ponderous facade would, we consider, be an improvement (2020/02271/FUL).

Sotheron Place



A new application has been submitted to build 31 flats in two blocks on a site at Sotheron Place off Michael Road in Fulham (2020/01499/FUL). Currently the location is occupied by warehouses including one belonging to Christopher Wray designs and the Chel-ski ski and snowboarding centre. The Wray family have owned the site for a number of years and are working in partnership with the developer Caerus to build two blocks, one of six storeys and one of three which will contain 31 flats with a mix of 1,2 and 3 bedroom units as well as retail and commercial space.



IN BRIEF

Beehives

A local resident of Parsons Green has announced they have been given approval for 4 medium sized beehives in their back garden. With each hive containing around 50,000 worker bees, you may see more of them in the surrounding area and as they are a cross bred species, making them very sturdy during the wintertime, they will be around all year. The newly appointed beekeepers wish to share some health and safety information:

<https://www.msmanuals.com/home/news/editorial/2018/05/15/14/05/bee-stings>

Fulham Cemetery Keeper's House

This is going to be featured on the TV programme, *Grand Designs*. If you notice it, please let the Fulham Society know.

Fulham Palace

Fulham Palace Museum reopened on 24 September following 6 months of closure. Visitors are required to [pre-book free time slots](#) to visit the Palace. The museum and shop will be open from 12.00 – 4pm on Thursdays to Sundays. The shop has moved to Bishop Porteus's library and will be at the end of the museum visit. The Palace café interior has also reopened. The Palace's walled garden is also open free of charge from 10.15am – 4.15pm.

Libraries

Libraries across Hammersmith & Fulham are open again but due to COVID-19 restrictions, some services are limited compared to normal, but you can now visit again for browsing, using a computer and photocopying. There are no physical newspapers or magazines although you can still access all this content through the online resources. All activities and in-person events for children or adults have been cancelled and no study facilities are currently available. You can now reserve and collect books as normal.



Paid Dog Walkers

Since 1 October all professional dog walkers have had to be registered with the Council and pay a fee for a licence to use Hammersmith & Fulham's parks. Similar schemes are already in place in neighbouring boroughs. This should improve safety and reduce dog fouling.

Tideway tunnel

Bazalgette Finance published an assessment on behalf of Tideway, the organisation building the super sewer, of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on its operations. There are likely to be further delays and cost increases for the project. The company's latest modelling indicates construction work, which was due to be completed in 2024 is now likely to be completed in the first half of 2025, adding nine months to its current schedule. Work on the project resumed on all sites in May but with a lower level of activity in order to comply with social distancing requirements.

Police Stations

Hammersmith Police station will be re-opening in September. The Fulham Boy's School will be moving into the old Fulham Police station site on Fulham Road during the Christmas holidays. Its former site in Mund Street, will become affordable housing, as will the old Children's Home in Farm Lane.

Riverside Studios: Acting for the over 50s.

Cat's Whiskers Community Arts, a local charity, is running acting workshops for the over 50s. Carol Allen has been teaching adult drama classes for over 10 years. The workshops include voice and speech training, movement, improvisation and character creation. Improve your posture your confidence, your memory – and have some fun. Places are limited and will be conducted with due regard to Covid 19 protocols. The workshops are every Friday from 2.00 pm to 4 pm.

There are lots of activities, too, for other ages – toddler rhymes, yoga, films. Get details: <https://www.riversidestudios.co.uk/book/div-e-in--community-events>

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Hammersmith Bridge and the Government Taskforce

Hammersmith Bridge closed in April 2019 with no indication of when it would reopen. In August, with no warning, pedestrians, cyclists and river traffic were banned. It has caused travel chaos to pedestrians and motorists on either side of the river and on the river itself. Prior to its full closure 16,000 people crossed the river on foot or bike every day, in addition to the 20,000 vehicles.

The first meeting of the Hammersmith Bridge Task Force, chaired by Baroness Vere, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Transport, took place on 16 September 2020. The Departmental committee has taken over the project of fixing the 133-year-old, grade II*-listed landmark and includes representatives from TfL, the London Boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham and of Richmond upon Thames, Network Rail, the Greater London Authority and the Port of London Authority. The terms of reference state the task force will focus urgently on pulling together “all necessary information, including technical and operational information and costs, in order to reach a decision on the most appropriate way to safely re-open Hammersmith Bridge to full use” and “provide appropriate temporary measures during the works”.

At the time of writing the task force has had 4 meetings. The aim is to complete the risk assessment by November at the latest. Professor Norman Fleck, a fracture mechanics and materials expert, who is advising the taskforce, has held “constructive conversations” with engineers.

At the meeting on 8 October, the committee considered options for a temporary solution for pedestrian and cycling traffic. It agreed a ferry service should be in place as soon as is possible and by early 2021 at the latest. Landing points with pontoons and temporary structures will need to be created and planning permission and consent from the Environment Agency and Port of London Authority would be needed, as well as from the parties owning land on the river banks.

All other potential solutions, including a temporary bridge, remain under consideration. Steven Cowen, the leader of H&F Council, has said they are looking at other sites around Hammersmith and Fulham and Barnes where a suitable permanent crossing could be placed that might be more cost effective than a temporary bridge (16 September, Policy and Accountability meeting).

The Fulham Society has written to Lady Vere stressing that it is of the utmost urgency for everyone in the Borough that a way should be found as soon as possible to permit pedestrians and cyclists to cross the river, and this should be the immediate priority.

This will not, of course, solve the problem of the traffic chaos in Fulham as traffic looks for alternative routes to the south. The congestion throughout Fulham is exacerbated by other factors as well as the closure of Hammersmith Bridge and we have asked the Committee to use its influence to persuade all the local Councils affected that, while the bridge is closed, there should be some more joined-up thinking about timing and the knock on effects of their decisions. The traffic situation has reached a critical stage; anything that makes it worse should be examined in the light of this. Only vital maintenance should be undertaken and any plans for repairs and changes to traffic proposed by the Councils should explicitly take into account the added congestion caused by the closure of the Bridge.

We wish the committee the very best of luck and very much hoped they will be able to find a conclusion to the immediate problem of access over the Bridge and to the situation of the increased traffic on the roads, an immense inconvenience to all who live and work in Fulham and harmful to the health of the population by increasing the pollution.

Wandsworth Bridge area

Increased traffic and air pollution has been a long-standing problem in this area but has been made worse in the last months. The partial closure of Wandsworth Bridge - which has seen four lanes reduced to two - has reduced the capacity of the bridge from 4,500 vehicles per hour to 2,000 vehicles per hour. On top of this, the significant and unexpected full closure of Vauxhall Bridge is diverting around 70,000 drivers a day to Wandsworth and other bridges. The knock-on effect of the closure of Hammersmith Bridge to pedestrians and cyclists is also leading more people to drive.

The repairs to Wandsworth Bridge are due to continue at least until mid-November so the lengthy tailbacks on both sides of the bridge will continue. Vauxhall Bridge is also supposed to reopen in late November.

Many local residents take the view that the Council's traffic reduction scheme, the Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme covering roads to the east and intended to stop rat running has contributed to the increased congestion. Certainly, since its introduction, another set of residential streets to the west have now become rat runs. Even some residents who benefit from the scheme have concerns about receiving medical prescriptions, essential access for care workers, and wider delivery access, in addition to the concerns expressed by local businesses.

According to the council the current congestion can be largely attributed to the numerous bridge closures across London and increased traffic in general resulting from reduced public transport use and increased private vehicle use as a result of COVID-19. Therefore, the re-opening of the LTN to increase capacity would not currently relieve the pressure southbound on Wandsworth Bridge or the roads to the west due to the limited flow of traffic that is possible over the bridge.

Others are less certain. A local group, the Wandsworth Bridge Road Residents and Business Association (WBRA) has been set up for those living and working on or near the Wandsworth Bridge Road to help support and give voice on local issues that affect their lives, well-being and businesses. They accept that all of the above are indeed contributing factors but remain to be convinced that the impact of the LTN is as minimal as the council believes. However, they accept the added effects of the road works and bridge closures are currently making it difficult to properly assess the true impact of the LTN and time should be allowed for the bridge repairs to be completed before any changes the LTN may be making to commuter behaviour can be judged.

There could be some changes to the LTN in the short term. The WBRA is holding regular meetings with Councillor Ben Coleman, the Highways teams and other local working groups in the area to try to agree some minor changes but also to discuss substantial strategic improvements for the area. Look at their website <https://wbrassociation.org.uk/> and contact them if you would like to support or help.

Local MP, Greg Hands, has a petition calling on the Council to cancel its 'SW6 traffic reduction scheme': <https://www.greghands.com/campaigns/SW6petition>

FULHAM SOCIETY NEWS

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting for 2020 will be held via Zoom on Monday 23 November 2020 at 6.00 pm to transact the following business:

The Chairman's report – Fiona Fowler

The Treasurer's report – Isobel Hill Smith

The Resolutions

1. To approve the Minutes of the AGM held on 28 October 2019
2. To approve the audited accounts for the year 2019/2020
3. To elect the Vice-presidents and Officers of the Society. The following have been duly proposed and seconded:
 - a. **Vice-Presidents:** Lord Carrington of Fulham, Patrick Ground QC, Greg Hands MP, Andrew Slaughter MP
 - b. **Officers of the Society**

Chairman: Isobel Hill-Smith	Hon Membership Sec: Margaret Kemp
Vice Chairman: Niel Redpath	Hon Treasurer: David Chamberlain
Hon. Secretary: Barbara Skorupska	
4. To elect the **Executive Committee**. The following have been duly proposed and seconded:

Binky Aylmer, Maya Donelan, Fiona Fowler, Kim Hawkins, Anne Soutry, Maria Sturdy Morton
5. To approve the appointment of Wendy Shelton as Independent Reviewer

To join the Meeting

To participate in the Zoom meeting please email info@fulhamsociety.org to register. Joining instructions will be sent the day before the meeting and again on the morning of the meeting itself.

The Minutes of the 2019 AGM and the Accounts 2019-20 are attached to this Newsletter.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

VICE-PRESIDENTS	Patrick Ground QC, Lord Carrington of Fulham, Greg Hands MP, Andy Slaughter MP
CHAIRMAN	Fiona Fowler
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Niel Redpath
HON. TREASURER	Isobel Hill-Smith
HON. SECRETARY	Maya Donelan MBE
HON. MINUTES SEC.	Binky Aylmer
HON. MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Margaret Kemp
MEMBERS	Kim Hawkins, Caroline Marston, Anne Soutry, Maria Sturdy-Morton

Committee Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month (except August & December)

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The Fulham Society

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting for 2020 will be held via Zoom on Monday 23 November 2020 at 6.00 pm to transact the following business.

AGENDA

1. Chairman's report – Fiona Fowler
2. Treasurer's report – Isobel Hill Smith
3. Resolutions
 - To approve the Minutes of the AGM held on 28 October 2019
 - To approve the audited accounts for the year 2019/2020
 - To elect the Vice-presidents and Officers of the Society. The following have all been duly proposed and seconded:
Vice-Presidents: Lord Carrington, Patrick Ground QC, Greg Hands MP, Andrew Slaughter MP
Executive Committee:
Chairman: Isobel Hill-Smith Hon Membership Sec: Margaret Kemp
Vice Chairman: Niel Redpath Hon Treasurer: David Chamberlain
Hon. Secretary: Barbara Skorupska
 - To elect the Executive Committee. The following have all been duly proposed and seconded
Binky Aylmer, Maya Donelan, Fiona Fowler, Kim Hawkins, Anne Soutry, Maria Sturdy Morton,
 - To approve the appointment of Wendy Shelton as Independent Reviewer



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Fulham Society

**held on 28 October 2019 at 7.00 pm
at the Sixth Form Centre, Lady Margaret School, Parsons Green, SW6**

- 1. Opening remarks** The Meeting was chaired by Matthew Carrington who welcomed members to the 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- 2. Apologies for absence** had been received from Niel Redpath, Binkie Aylmer, Caroline Marston, Ruth Savary, L. Hillier-Holt.
- 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 November 2018.** These were agreed by the meeting.
- 4. Chairman's Report.** Fiona Fowler gave her report.

Committee. She thanked the Committee for all their help; reported that, sadly, David Tatham had died unexpectedly; thanked Andrew Snell, who is not standing for re-election, for his work on the committee; and welcomed Kim Hawkins to the committee.

Events. Two walks had been organised during the year as well as a tour of Margravine cemetery and a second visit to the Recycling centre. The Fulham Society had a stall at the Parsons Green Fair and held a most enjoyable Summer Party at Fulham Palace in July. In addition, there was the highly successful Front Garden Competition.

Planning. There had been meetings during the year with the developers of Fulham Town Hall and the Castle Club. The owners of the Town Hall are about to put in their application to turn it into a hotel. The developers of the Castle Club have recently submitted their planning application to make it a nursing home for Alzheimer sufferers.

She outlined some of the factors considered by the Society when looking at planning applications.

- Size & density
- Community
- Employment opportunities
- Transport
- Green and Public Open space
- River Thames

5. Independently Reviewed Accounts for the year 2018/2019. Isobel Hill Smith gave her report. Some generous donations had been received and as a result the accounts showed a healthy balance. The Society was looking at ways to use it to improve Fulham. It had donated a bench and two Fulham Oaks to Hurlingham Park, had continued for a second year with the front gardens competition and were looking for other possibilities that could benefit Fulham. The Independently Reviewed Accounts were proposed and accepted. There were no questions.

6. Election of Officers. The following were elected unanimously as Officers of the Society:

Vice-Presidents: Lord Carrington, Patrick Ground QC, Greg Hands MP, Andrew Slaughter MP

Executive Committee. The following were elected unanimously as the Executive Committee:

Chairman: Fiona Fowler

Hon Membership Secretary: Margaret Kemp

Vice Chairman: Niel Redpath

Hon Treasurer: Isobel Hill-Smith

Hon Secretary: Maya Donelan

7. Election of Committee. The following were elected unanimously as the Committee of the Society:

Binky Aylmer, Kim Hawkins, Caroline Marston, Anne Soutry, Maria Sturdy Morton,

8. Appointment of Independent Reviewer. The appointment of the Independent Reviewer, Wendy Shelton was agreed by the meeting.

9. AOB.

Questions included negative comments about Fulham Football Club and its encroachment on the River. Greg Hands MP gave a brief account of his discussions with TFL regarding the situation at Hammersmith Bridge and reported on the proposed refurbishment of Charing Cross Hospital.

There was nothing further to report.

10. Following the meeting Guy Evans and Kathy Stevenson, volunteers from Thames River Watch gave a talk on '*Holding back the tide: tackling plastic pollution in the tidal Thames*'.

The meeting ended and members were invited to have a glass of wine.

THE FULHAM SOCIETY

Receipts and payment account for the year ended 26th March 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Receipts for the year		
Subscriptions & donations (Note 1)	£4,537	£3,943
Net income from functions (Note 2)	£351	£469
Income from investments JH Deposit a/c & Env fund	£483	£482
Gift aid & other income (Note 3)	£691	£1,138
	£6,060	£6,032
Payments for the year		
Printing, post, stationery, web	£1,496	£1,476
Dues & subs	£45	£65
Charges, insurance, miscellaneous	£621	£338
Front garden competition	£797	£616
Donations (Note 4)	£4,170	£2,377
	£7,129	£4,872
Surplus of receipts over payments	-£1,068	£1,159

Balance sheet at 26 March 2020

Accumulated funds

At 27 March 2019	£30,745	£29,586
Surplus of receipts over payments	-£1,068	£1,159
	£29,677	£30,745

Represented by: Cash & investments

Lloyds current account	£2,444	£10,445
Lloyds deposit a/c Environmental Improvement Fund	£7,233	£300
Julian Hodge deposit account	£10,000	£10,000
M&G funds at cost (market value £9,008 on 17/4/20)	£10,000	£10,000
	£29,677	£30,745

Notes

1 Includes an exceptional single donation of £750

2 Summer party: Net profit = £736

AGM: Net profit = -£199

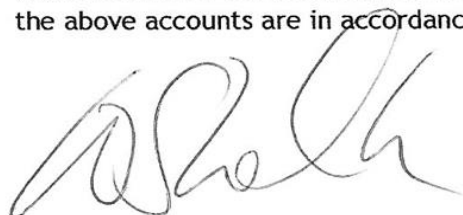
Special Events = -£187

Total profit from events = £351

3 Gift aid for 2017/18

4 £1,170 for South Park water fountain + £3,000 for F Palace restoration B Porteus library

I have examined the books and records of the Fulham Society and confirm that the above accounts are in accordance therewith.



Wendy Shelton, Independent Reviewer

Isobel Hill-Smith

Isobel Hill-Smith, Honorary Treasurer