



MERTON PRIORY TRUST

Minutes of meeting held at 1 Compton Road SW19 on Monday 27 July 2009

Present: Marcus Beale (Chair), Cyril Maidment, Nicholas Hart, Mary Hart, Cllr. Geraldine Stanford, Cllr. Richard Chellew, Vicki Carroll, Cllr. Maurice Groves.

1. Apologies: Dave Roberts, John Hawks, Dave Saxby.
2. Minutes of last meeting: Geraldine Stanford was not present. Otherwise agreed as a correct record.
3. Matters arising: are dealt with under main agenda. Accounts have been submitted to Companies House as previously circulated.
 - 4.1. Current status regarding the land transfer and section 106. LBM Legal are still negotiating with the present owners Axa. Axa are asking to be released from all obligations under the Section 106 agreement before transferring the title and funds. It was reported that, legally, Axa do not have a leg to stand on, if they do not discharge their obligations under the Section 106 Agreement they should be taken to the High Court.
 - 4.2. Nicholas Hart pointed out that there is a notice period in the Section 106, which expires three years after the completion of the buildings. The council must serve the notice under section 13.3. of the Agreement before this time. Presumably they have done so.
 - 4.3. Need to establish whether Axa or LBM are holding the process up.
 - 4.4. MPT would like to comment on any covenants which would be attached to the freehold transfer. MPT would like to see the draft transfer document. it was agreed that Cllr Groves would ask LBM legal department for a copy of this. **[Action Maurice Groves]**
5. Cllr. Richard Chellew is developing the Borough Plan looking at core policies with respect to Heritage. At a policy level this is simply to preserve the heritage and raise awareness of it. He is looking in more detail at various aspects of the Wandle Valley park, the Metropolitan Open Land and Abbey Mills, Merton Priory and Deen City Farm sites. He will update with progress Autumn 2009.
6. Vicki Carroll is on the steering group for Wandle Valley park. Focus seems to be on biodiversity and ecology but heritage aspects need to be emphasised. The boundaries of the park need to be established as well. De-culverting of tributaries is being promoted throughout London, Wandle may be a template for this.
7. Maurice Groves reminded us that Wimbledon Tennis is a visitor attraction second only to Kew Gardens in SW London. 55,000 people go to the tennis museum alone, outside tennis tournaments. He has been looking at connecting tourist attractions, perhaps with a park and ride scheme.

Next meeting: 5 pm Thursday 17th September 2009 at the Chapter House, which will also be the AGM.