

MALDENS AND COOMBE HERITAGE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 2nd APRIL 2014

AT NEW MALDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Mary greeted all members (31)

There were apologies for absence from Keith and Diane Cooper, Graeme Hodge, Anita and Dick Riches, Tim Everson, and Marion Moat.

There were three new members. Peter Brand, Peter Brand Jnr, and Pete Jackson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed.

Mary thanked the church for the use of their meeting place, and for their catering facilities.

The recollections booklet was now in the last stages of preparation. We had decided to have printed 150 copies at a cost of £350. The booklets would be sold at £3.50 each, meaning that if all were sold we would make a profit of £175. A lively debate ensued regarding promotion of the launch. A vote was taken on the date (10th May) the venue (Baptist Church with the Methodist Church as first reserve) and whether the launch should be in the morning or afternoon (afternoon agreed). The local media would be invited to attend and publicity would appear in the Village Voice and Surrey Comet and possibly on Radio Jackie. Peter Brand (Jnr) mentioned that he knew the morning DJ on the radio station and volunteered to speak to him about the launch. Julian was given a round of applause for all the hard work he had put into the project.

Maureen said that the letters to the five schools in the area were nearly complete and would be sent out ASAP. Marion would be writing a piece about her Mum and Dad to be included. The Lloyd prize would be a way of encouraging the local schools to take an interest in history and possibly the Heritage Society.

Mary stated that the neighbourhood had agreed to the installation of a pump in the Plough Pond to help clear the water which had become overgrown with duckweed.

Julian gave a very interesting talk with a PowerPoint presentation on the preparations locally for the Cold War in the 1950s/60s (see attached). It is hoped that permission will be granted to clear away some of the undergrowth near the bunker.

Pam Vincent gave an illustrated talk on the development of religious buildings in the Malden and Kingston area. Starting with the first church in Kingston called St Marys and the first church in Malden (St John The Baptist); she expertly covered all the various religious organisations and the reasons behind the development of so many different groups. Some illustrations were difficult (some impossible) to come by, but Pam who originally wrote her talk as part of a thesis coped exceptionally well as she has not been well during the day.

In AOB Mary told the members that we had booked the charity stall at the Farmers Market for the first Saturday in July when we would be canvassing for new members, and selling copies of the recollections booklet.

The meeting closed with the next planned for Wednesday 30th April 2014.