



Lymington Voice

Lymington Society Update and Social Programme

August 2018

The last few months have been busy ones for the Committee, and in this short update we set out some of the issues we have been tackling on behalf of the Society.

More details will be set out in the main newsletter to be published later in the Autumn

As the glorious Summer of 2018 begins to draw to a close and the evenings grow a little cooler, it's time to get out your diaries - both digital and paper - and make a note of the dates for the Autumn Social Programme that Social Secretary Pam Morrissey has arranged for us. We hope that last year's trend for more members attending the Social Programme will continue this year. All Members and their guests are welcome.

Details are set out on page 2.

AGM Report

The AGM took place in the McLennan Room at the Lymington Centre on the 22nd of March, and was attended by over 60 members, one of the largest attendances for many years. The Committee was pleased to see such a good turn out, and a lively and interesting meeting was enjoyed by those present.

Chairman Clive Sutton gave his Chairman's Report on the busy year of events and planning issues that the Society had been involved in. Sadly he had to offer commiserations to the family of Peter Chitty who had passed away in early 2018. Peter had served the Society for many years, more latterly as President of the Society.

Two new Committee Members, Roger Liley and Oliver Dunne stood for election and were voted on to the Committee.

A fascinating talk was given by Nick Saunders, a local historian, who talked about the Special Operations Executive in WW2 and the training of secret agents at Beaulieu.

Planning and the NFDC Local Plan Review

This Summer the Society was involved in the consultation exercise set up by the NFDC into their Review of the Local Plan. This is happening because the Government has told all Planning Authorities to provide enough building land to meet their actual housing needs in the future.

The previous draft plan for Lymington was for almost 1,200 homes - mainly in the Green Belt to the north of Pennington and Lymington. The Society strongly objected to this and the new plan is now for 285 homes on two "Strategic Sites" containing over 100 each, as well as another 200 on windfall small sites of 10 houses or more.

However the Society took the view that one of these sites which was to the North and east of the Hospice and across to

Ridgway Lane, was not suitable for such a large number of homes, which could ruin the Rural Lanes area of South Pennington which is protected in the NFDC Local Distinctive Planning Guidance. The Society made an online Representation identifying our concerns about this site on safety and Local Distinctiveness, and stating that the Plan was therefore in the technical jargon "Unsound". The next step is for a "Public Examination" in front of a Planning Inspector.

Burrard Neale

The big news on the Burrard Neale project is that work finally started on the Monument in July, following the appointment of Traditional Stone Restoration - a specialist company chosen from a short list of five. Work is progressing well, and on Friday Don Mackenzie and Peter Stone led a group of Councillors, including Mayor Anne Corbridge, up the scaffolding to observe progress. The view from the top was stunning and a picture is attached below. Work is expected to take about another month.



Other News

Garden Grabbing Development Pressure Is Back!!

Two proposed developments at Milford Road for flats have resulted in the Society making objections to the NFDC planners. McCarthy and Stone have applied to demolish three houses at 14 - 18 Milford Road, and another developer wishes to demolish a house and build nine flats at 85 Milford Road. We have opposed both of these schemes.

The main roads into Lymington are characterised by family houses in mature plots with trees, and give a nice open impression coming into the town. Blocks of flats, if once allowed on one site, would rapidly become the norm and ruin the feel of the town for ever. The Society feel strongly that these schemes should be resisted.

Redrow Railways Bridge - Improved Design Proposed

The Society made strong representations to the company over the terrible "industrial design" proposed for the bridge

staircase next to Lymington Station. We suggested that a much rounder design would be better. The company appears to have listened and their latest designs are a great improvement. Huge delays still seem likely with the bridge not being finished until 2019.

Society Joins Lymington Harbour Advisory Group.

The Lymington Society has now joined the influential Lymington Harbour Advisory Group (LHAG) following an invitation from the Chairman of the Group. All Trust Ports have by law to have an advisory body of some sort, to represent local bodies and stakeholders. The LHAG runs as an advisory group on the workings of the Lymington Harbour Commissioners (LHC), and is consulted by the LHC on issues that are of importance to local stakeholders. The LHAG represents a wide range of local groups including the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council. The LHAG meets twice a year, and the Society is pleased to be involved in this important local body representing its members and local residents.

Social Programme

By Pam Morrissey

September 11th—The work of the RNLI



We are very pleased to welcome Steve Billet who will talk to members about the work of this voluntary organisation which as we all know is very much a part of life by the sea in Lymington.

Lymington Centre - Fuller Room 6pm

Tuesday 9th October—The revival of the Solent Oyster Beds



A talk by Jacob Kean Hammerson of the Blue Marine Foundation, who are a world wide conservation organisation that was represented at last year's Seafood festival, and who are seeking to reseed oysters in the waters of the Solent .

Lymington Centre Fuller Room 6pm

7th November—The Work of the New Forest Rangers Richard Daponte



We are extremely lucky to live in such a diverse rural area with the Forest on our doorstep. We are pleased to be able to hear first hand about life as a New Forest Ranger from Ranger Richard Daponte who will tell us about his work helping to run the huge area that is the New Forest.

Lymington Centre Fuller Room 6pm

Thursday December 13th—Christmas Drinks Party



We return again to the Stanwell House Hotel - our favourite venue - for the much loved Lymington Society Christmas Drinks Party held in the delightful conservatory at the rear of the hotel. With a new chef we are promised a full spread of delicious canapes and drinks which should help ensure an enjoyable evening for everyone to help kick off the Christmas festivities. Members and their guests can meet and chat with fellow members as well as meet the members of the Executive Committee.

6 pm. Tickets on the door £8.50

Visit to Marlings Vineyard

This event is now not taking place.

*Tickets for all events available on the door
Admission £5 unless otherwise noted*