

UPPER THAMES PROTECTION SOCIETY

Minutes of 'Virtual' Meeting held on 9th September 2020

1. Present:

Helen Goody (Stripling editor)
Chris Graham (chairman)
Margaret Hunt (secretary)
Ben West

2. Apologies for Absence: Carol Rouse and Richard Ruming had sent their apologies; Steven Tabbitt had not been notified of the meeting. Helen Goody was thanked for setting up the ZOOM arrangements.

3. Update Upon the Covid-19 Pandemic: Chris Graham gave brief information, including current positive changes to home visits, though only six persons could meet at one time from the beginning of the following week.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of 1st July 2020: These were confirmed as a correct record and signed on behalf of Chris Graham by Margaret Hunt.

5. Matters Arising from the 1st July 2020 Meeting:

Website Update Chris Graham gave it as his opinion that Carol Rouse, assisted by Mark Strange, had made a vast improvement in format and content, plus the inclusion of many photographs.

Stripling production for 2020 Helen Goody referred to the contents listed in the minutes of the previous meeting, giving reference to the draft articles she had received. It was arranged that Ben West would assist her in preparing the Stripling copy for printing at the end of September. Photographs were still required, including examples of North Meadow winter and spring flooding. Helen also took the opportunity to mention getting in touch with her canoe expert contact in connection with kyacking on the Thames.

6. Sarah Well's Recent Communications: Committee Members would remain associated with the messages – see also below.

7. Treasurer's Financial and Membership Report: Carol Rouse had provided figures to 29.8.2020: Total Funds were £2, 780.23; Income was £60.85; Expenditure was £155.49. There had been no change in Membership numbers during the past year. Current membership of £2.00 per annum would be increased to £3.00 at the 2020 AGM. [Chris, I found current membership info. on the computer].

8. Date for 2020 UTPS AGM: Wednesday 11th November was agreed, to be conducted by ZOOM. Helen Goody would check whether Seb Cooke was prepared to give his talk, postponed from the 2019 AGM, by 'virtual' contact. Consideration would also be given to Committee Membership.

9. Next UTPS Meeting Date: This would be held on Wednesday 13th January, starting at 7.00 pm. Arrangements would be confirmed nearer to the time.

10. Any Other Business: The meeting ended with a discussion upon various matters relating to the Upper Thames Partnership; the excellent spreadsheet setting out the sewerage situation within the catchments of the Rivers Churn, Coln and Thames; the Trow Canoe Club; Upper Thames Farms and Farmers and the way the environmental situation is developing.

The additional news was given that Arthur Webb had moved (satisfactorily) to a Care Home in his locality.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.