



Brentham Society
Minutes Annual General Meeting (2023/24)
27th March 2025 at 8pm, Brentham Club

Members in Attendance:

Approx 70 including committee

Committee Members Present:

Jo Bradley (Chair), Martin Mortimore, Alan Henderson and Sarah Salord (Secretary) Tamara Colton and Elly Castellano (Treasurer)

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. SPEAKER (MARTIN MORTIMORE)

This year we welcomed long standing resident, and Brentham News editor, BAFTA nominated producer Martin Mortimore as a guest speaker. Martin recollected stories and anecdotes from a 40-year career at the BBC and elsewhere in “Tales from Telly”. A large selection of pictures accompanied the amusing and fascinating talk which was well received by the audience.

3. CHAIR REPORT (Jo Bradley)

The Chair shared a review of the year and what’s taken place since the last AGM in March 2024:

- A brief background the The Brentham Society was presented initially:
 - Established in 1970 the year after conservation status was granted
 - Primary aims were to preserve, conserve and promote the area of Brentham
 - The Society is a registered charity and run by a committee on behalf of its members
- Conservation history was explained with permitted development rights being strengthened after conservation status was granted. These were further strengthened with the granting of Article 4 directive in 1975 and a further one in 2007. These form the basis regarding planning and the enforcement of planning rules
- A summary of planning applications and advice given to residents was presents – 53 planning applications and over 130 emails from residents and potential residents replied to.
- The process around planning rules and enforcements was explained with refence to the 3 main policy documents: the Brentham Design guide, The Brentham Management Plan and Ealing Generic Management Plan.
- Pat Baxendale and Heather Moore were thanked for their help and time spent interpreting and helping with all planning matters. It was noted their depth of knowledge is second to none
- It was announced that a Conservation Officer has been appointed by Ealing Council, a role previously removed in 2019. The appointee is Mark Price, and the Society look forward to working with him in the future.
- Residents were reminded that the Brentham Website holds a number of useful advice sheets to help with planning
- The beautification campaign of the estate was referenced, and residents were shown pictures of the tree bed planting. The planting was co-ordinated by Committee member Tamara Colton and is ongoing. Street signs have been renovated, and this is also ongoing. The possible use of a grant from HS2 to improved Vivian Green was introduced.
- The Brentham Society has hosted many events throughout the year which play an important role in showcasing the area to the public including Open House Walks and Open Gardens. Special thanks were passed onto the expert Open House Walks tour guides Clive Evans, Steve Jenkins and Sue Elliott and to the Gardening Group for co-ordinating the Open Gardens and Diana Hill for providing teas afterwards.

- We also enjoyed some residents-only events last year – The Strawberry Tea in June, thank you to Allison McAllister for hosting this – and the Swiss themed Cheese and Wine Evening hosted in St Barnabas where attendees were treated to a screening of Brentham from Above as well as delicious fayre from Harrisons Deli.
- Bentham Carol singing returned with 2 dates this time and raised a record £1200 for Ealing Samaritans. Thanks were given to Steve Jenkins for organising this.
- Street Representatives and Newsletter distributors were thanked for their hard work and interaction with local residents in handing our Welcome packs and delivering Brentham News.
- It was noted the membership of the Society was higher than the previous year but could still be higher still. Alan Henderson was thanked for his work on managing membership and subscriptions (£5 per household).
- Improvements the website were noted including easy access to the virtual tour.
- A reminder was also given about the extensive archives held in the Tower Room of the Brentham Club and that interested residents can request to see them.

Thanks were passed onto the Committee members and all volunteers for their time and support. A special thanks was passed to Secretary Sarah Salord who has decided to stand down.

4. GARDEN AWARDS (Teresa Mazur)

Photographs of the gardens that had been shortlisted for the awards were presented and these with the winners included:

- Spring – 64 Meadvale Road (Winner)
- Summer – 26 Ludlow Road (Winner)
- Autumn – 9 Ludlow Road (Winner)

The Rose Bowl Award 2025 was presented to 30 Holyoake Walk.

5. FINANCE REPORT (Elly Castellano)

The Treasurer presented a summary of the financial accounts for the accounting year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Society started the accounting year with £9,909, most of which is in reserve funds. During the year the Society received £3,018 in income, £2,424 of which came from household subscriptions. The Society used this money to fund community activities such as the Brentham Newsletter, Christmas parcels and garden awards, and to cover its running costs, such as expenses, insurance, IT and internet charges. The Society finished the accounting year with £10,501, thus making a surplus on the year of £591. The Treasurer presented the Summary of receipts and payments and the Statement of funds. The accounts were audited by Andy Akerman and signed off on 6 February 2025. Printed copies of the Summary of receipts and payments and the Statement of funds were made available to attendees.

6. VOTE IN THE NEW COMMITTEE

The BS Constitution allows between four to nine members and up to four co-opted members. One member has resigned: Sarah Salord. Tamara Colton is to replace Sarah in the role of Secretary. The following members of the BS Committee were voted in for 2025:

Jo Bradley (Chair):	Woodfield Crescent
Alan Henderson (Archive and Website):	Meadvale Road
Martin Mortimore (Brentham News Editor):	Fowlers Walk
Tamara Colton (Secretary & Local Coordinator):	Fowlers Walk
Elly Castellano (Treasurer):	Denison Road

The Chair proposed that unless there were any objections, an en bloc vote should be taken. Their election was proposed by a show of hands.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no questions