**Canterbury Society AGM Tuesday 17th September 2024**

**Heritage and Conservation Working Group Report.**

**1. Canterbury Tales of England Board**

The next CTOE Board met earlier today. JVW to give a verbal update.

**2. Canterbury Heritage Open Days 2024 (6th to 15th Sept)**

Canterbury HODS 2024 have just been completed and we are looking ahead as to whether and how we can resource the event in 2025. If you are interested in helping with this please speak to me or our Chair Hilary Brian

**3. World Heritage Site Management Plan**

There have been considerable delays due to difficulties in the various Stakeholders reaching agreement on a draft Plan. We were expecting a public consultation to take place in late February/early March 2023 but this is now 18 months behind schedule. We are in conversation with English Heritage with a view to the Canterbury Society organising a public meeting on **Thursday** **24th** **October.** We are currently seeking a venue for the event and will be in touch with everyone via email on this shortly.

**4. Blue Plaques Project**

This project is now completed apart from the plaque to Walter Pater to be place at 12 Summerhill Harbledown for which planning consent is still awaited. The blue plaques project was fully funded and any surplus in the account will be used to reprint the leaflet again later this year or in the Spring.2025.

**5. Longport Blue Plaques**

**This is a joint venture with Canterbury Commemoration Society**

I met with Brian McHenry of CCS and Becky Castle of English Heritage on 5th September to discus a blue plaques project in Longport on the wall of the Heritage England Information Centre and will report further at the Canterbury Society October committee meeting.

**6. Canterbury Society Annual Civic Lecture Autumn 2024**

No progress due to changes of staff at UKC

**7.Canterbury Society Annual Heritage Lecture 2024**

See Item 3 above The Annual Heritage Lecture this year was to be the launch of the WHS Management Plan Consultation mentioned in 3 above.

**Tower House ACV Nomination.**

**Work in progress**

I submitted an Application to CCC for Tower House to be Listed as an Asset of Community Value on 4th March and received an acknowledgement on 6th March confirming receipt of the Nomination and that the matter had been forwarded to the reliant Officers for consideration. I have since heard that there was a problem with the CCC online Nomination Form and I will have to resubmit the application all over again when I can find the time.

**8. Canterbury West Waiting Room (Exhibition Space)**

I had a Zoom with Matthew Fraser Southeastern Head of External Communications on 20th March who indicated funding could be available for this project in their new financial year Apri 2024 to April 2025. I am working on an outline proposal for submission later this month to establish whether we can take this forward to a full grant application. I am in discussion with The Crab and Winkle Line Trust and museum curator Rob Warren about the proposals. **Update.** I have had no response to my email to the Chair of the Crab and Winkle Line so will pick this up again as soon as I can.

**9. Talk on Design by Nikos Karydis (UKC)**

This talk is now taking place on Thursday 17th October at The Friends Meeting House.

Details are on the Canterbury Society Website under Events.

**10.** **Canterbury Cathedral Strategy Plan**

On Thursday 5th September I represented the Canterbury Soceity at a community consultation meeting at Canterbury Cathedral. The Cathedral are preparing a 10 year Strategic Plan which will be the basis of a new business model for the Cathedral. The discussion was interesting but very “high level.” No decisions were taken and the Cathedral Team will be taking the key points from the meeting back to their further internal deliberations. There will be a further consultation at the next stage.

**John Walker.**

**17th September 2024**