

How Weybridge Society works

- Weybridge Society has one main committee – made up of not more than 20 members elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.
- The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary are chosen from and elected by the Committee at its first meeting after the AGM.
- The main committee usually meets 6 times a year, but extra meetings can be called if circumstances dictate.
- This committee deals with the main policy and direction of the society.
- Supports and contributes to the Society's quarterly newsletter.

In addition to the main committee there are sub committees, or Panels and the chair of or spokesperson for each panel is a member of the main committee.

Planning Panel – A group of members interested in planning issues and often with special skills such as architects, surveyors, etc.

- Meets regularly to discuss new applications, appeals and related issues that affect Weybridge.
- Usually the applications considered are for significant developments, but smaller and even individual sites are considered if it is felt what is proposed would materially alter the street scene or set an unwelcome precedent.
- Considers development in Conservation Areas, and alterations or intrusions that might affect listed buildings.
- Detailed consideration is given to major Borough initiatives such as the Core Strategy and Local Development Framework.

- Representations are made to Elmbridge Council on behalf of the Weybridge Society which can take the form of comment, objection or more detailed scrutiny.
- The panel represents the society at planning appeals and regularly attends West Area Sub Committee Planning Meetings at the Civic Centre.
- Joint chairs lead the panel – covering the four wards in Weybridge – Weybridge North, and South, St George’s Hill and Oatlands.

Transport Panel This panel was set up to consider all aspects of transport in and around Weybridge – from roads, parking, hgvs, cars, cycles, and pedestrians.

- It communicates both with Surrey County Council and Elmbridge Borough Council and campaigns for improvements to make Weybridge roads safer.
- It also comments on planning applications that it is felt have a detrimental affect on safety due to access to sites, limited parking facilities on site, etc.
- The panel also considers the Core Strategy and Local Development Framework from the transport/road safety viewpoint and sends representations to the relevant bodies.

Education Panel A small group of members who consider and communicate with all the local schools in Weybridge, and other ‘educational’ institutions -

- Supporting initiatives and in recent years administering small grants to the schools for special projects from a bequest left to the society for educational purposes.
- The society has for many years given a prize for history to Heathside School, and more recently added one for a sixth form pupil who has made a significant contribution to the local community.

- Brooklands College is also within its remit.

Marketing Panel – A more recently formed group tasked with promoting the society from all angles –

- By direct contact with the public at meetings and events, by the website and by email.
- Networking with other groups, and bringing the work of the society to as many people as possible, with the end result being increased and vibrant membership.
- Providing an updated leaflet and considering the society's logo and general 'face' to the community.

Thames Gate-vey Panel - a small group, with one strong lead member who has worked over several years

- To improve the Thames-side at Weybridge – an on-going task, now involving the Thames Landscape Strategy in addition to the Environment Agency, Elmbridge Council and many Thames users.

Events – Although these are usually run through the main committee, a dedicated team of helpers is responsible for the activities the society arranges, which includes

- a Summer Garden Party; a winter party for all who help the society throughout the year – especially the band of 'deliverers' who kindly put the newsletter through members' letter boxes four times a year;
- several meetings for members on local or current topics;
- manning stands at local events and
- leading walks around Weybridge.

With so much activity of such diverse content there is always room for more members to add their help and expertise to our efforts. If you would like to be involved in any of the above, please contact a

member of the main committee – details are in the newsletter or on the website, www.veybrigesociety.org.uk

Our strength is in our membership – the more members we have, the stronger our voice on issues which matter to Weybridge. Please try to recruit one new member this year – if every member persuaded just one new person to join, our membership would double at a stroke! 1,000+ would be within our reach!

Cp10.3.11