Dulwich Society Executive 542nd Meeting Monday 11 July 2022 at 7.30pm at the Crown and Greyhound

Attendees:

President
Kenneth Wolfe (Left meeting at 9.15pm)

Officers
James Thompson – Chair (Zoom)
Sue Badman – Vice-Chair and Chair of meeting
Heather Stubbs– Secretary

Sub-Committee Chairs
David Beamish – Trees
Patsy Bramble – Licensing
Jeremy Prescott – Gardens
Peter Roseveare – Wildlife
Penny Stern – Planning and Architecture (Zoom)
Harry Winter – Travel & Environment

SB welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared it quorate.

1. Apologies
   Brian Green - Journal Editor
   Russell Lloyd - Treasurer
   Diana McInnes – Membership
   Ian McInnes – Local History

2. Register of Interests

   See Appendix 1. DB said he is now Chair of Dulwich and District U3A and is about to be appointed Chair of Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance. Harry Winter no longer attends "Mums for Lungs."

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

   The Minutes of 25th April 2022 were agreed.

   Action: JT to sign the Minutes of 25th April 2022 and HS to post the Minutes on the website.

4. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

   Society Events

   Action: All Committee Members to consider events to celebrate the Society's 60th Anniversary in 2023

Planning -SB has raised the issue of lack of information on planning applications with DE. JP reported that DE will not start progressing planning applications until all the necessary information has been received.

Dulwich Estate: SB has circulated the notes of the last DE surgery. She clarified that these are DS notes and not agreed with DE.

Vice Chair's Report: DS has agreed that the stocks stone should stay in its current location in the Burial Ground. SB has spoken to Aquinna, who will resubmit their planning documents and discuss the next steps.

Annual Report: HS has checked with DMcI that the figure of 20% of Dulwich households in membership was an estimate, so this figure was removed from the Annual Report before publication.

Treasurer's Report: JT has met with Sally-Anne Jeffries to thank her for her work as Independent Examiner. RL has changed the format of budget documents to make them easier to read.

Grants Awarded – Alastair Hanton Bench: The bench is to be sited just beyond the raised beds in Court Lane and JP is urging the Council to repair the adjacent path. SB is conducting an inventory of benches identifying whether they are DS or LBS.

Travel & Environment: The issue of frequency of trains from North Dulwich has been discussed at T&E Sub-committee. HW said the frequency has improved lately but more precise information is needed.

Action: Barry Coker (BC) (T&E Sub-committee member) to be asked to investigate the current status of the North Dulwich train service for Executive Committee. (Subsequent to the meeting, BC has reported that the position appears to be that there are four trains per hour in peak periods and three trains per hour off peak).

Burial Ground: JP said the foliage in the Burial Ground was not trimmed during "No Mow May" but is now being maintained as normal.

5. Minutes of AGM on 9 May 2022

The Minutes of the AGM on 9 May were approved by Executive Committee for final approval at the 2023 AGM.

Action: HS to post the draft Minutes of the AGM on 9 May on the website.

6. Matters Arising

A question had been raised at the AGM by Bridget Furst concerning which postcodes members live in. SB said it was her understanding that over 80% of members live in SE postcodes, mainly SE21, SE22 and SE24 (from 27 June 2021 membership analysis). JT said DS is open to anyone who supports our objectives as an amenity society and that although most members live in SE London, we also have members in other parts of the country and even international members. He said if we were to establish a boundary, it would be in order to identify which amenities we should focus on but not to restrict membership.

Action: HS to ask DMcI to provide updated anonymous information on numbers of members in each postcode area for Executive Committee and publish on the website. (It was established after the meeting that DMcI had sent the 2021 data to Bridget Furst after the AGM).

7. Minutes of SGM on 27 June 2022

It was agreed that as these had just been received by Executive Committee, comments should be submitted by email within the next two weeks.

8. Matters Arising

To be discussed under Rules Review.

9. DS Matters

a) Chair's Report

The Chair's Report was received.

JT has met with LBS councillors to discuss the Dulwich Streetspace co-design process. He said this would relate to the public realm (e.g. trees, benches, bicycle racks) and there would be no additional access for vehicles.

On the DE Advisory Committee:

- JT reported good progress on the DE Green Strategy, with a consultant appointed 2 days a month and the possibility of further resources
- Solar guidelines have been revised without consultation, but DE is open to further suggestions
- PS reported that Nadine Brown Williams, Principal Application Officer, would meet with the Planning & Architecture Sub-committee, probably in September
- DE would like to see an improved plinth for the stocks stone and will ask Aquinna to pay for this.

The defibrillator in the Dulwich Village phone box is operational and registered with the London Ambulance Service; a maintenance team of volunteers is in place.

Website sign-up for membership is now live, with payment by GoCardless. Some members have already signed up online.

On Communications and Media, JT had received a report from Sharon O'Connor. 2 individuals who were not happy with the new logo had been contacted and were now onboard with the design and had additionally signed up for eNews. It was agreed that a prize of Ian McInnes' book on Mid Century Architecture should be awarded to the 3,000th person to sign up to the DS Twitter account.

JT has attended several Residents' Association meetings with other committee members. Traffic issues were to the fore.

PB asked how DE's 2 stage licence process would operate as the LBS process is different. JT said DE will only grant the licence after the work is completed but the build specifications will continue to be set at the 1st stage and where there is an issue inspections will continue. PB said that PS's committee report objecting to the Fountain Drive application had been extremely helpful. DE had now come to inspect the site and have put in writing that they will visit again before matters are finalised. PS was congratulated on the work of her Planning and Architecture team.

Action: JT to ask Sharon O'Connor to update the Dulwich defibrillator map and to award the prize to the 3,000th Twitter follower.

b) Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair's report was received.

SB congratulated IMcI and BG on their civic award (Freedom of the Borough of Southwark). She had attended the ceremony at Southwark Cathedral. Diana and Rita were also in attendance.

SB thanked JP and BG for identifying issues at Dr Webster's Fountain on Dulwich Village roundabout and ensuring this was cleaned up for the Platinum Jubilee.

SB also thanked KW and the team who transported the post cart to Dulwich Village for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and created a video of this.

SB is in discussion with a consultant regarding security for the Edward Alleyn statue. She said the Treasurer is still waiting for copies of the invoices for insurance of the statue from DE and she is waiting for documentary evidence from DE of DS ownership of the statue.

SB visited the Elizabeth line on its opening and was interviewed by Southwark News about the benefits of the new line.

c) Rules Review

i. The meeting noted that the Executive Committee had approved by email the draft revised Rules for publishing on the website and for consideration at the SGM on 27 June.

ii. Next steps

Although a majority were in favour, the Rules were not approved at the SGM on 27 June as the 2/3rd majority of those present and eligible to vote was not achieved. In the light of this, it was agreed that:

- Further work will be undertaken on the Rules to consider the points raised by members at the SGM.
- Members will be consulted in writing on the proposed new Rules which will be brought back to the AGM in April 2023. The process will enable member comments to be considered in advance of publishing the Rules for approval. The updated rules will be considered at an SGM immediately following the AGM.
- The longer timescale will enable the Society to put forward proposal-s to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) if it decides to do so.
- A Code of Conduct will be developed to address the issue of how to deal with unacceptable behaviour. This will be published separately to the Rules as a standalone policy
- All Executive Committee meetings to have a quorum attending in person until the Rules can be amended to permit online meetings.

Action: DB and JP to circulate recommendations for amendments to the Rules to address some of the concerns raised at the SGM. JT to draft a paper setting out the

benefits and drawbacks of becoming a CIO. SB, with HS and PB, to draft a Code of Conduct.-

d) Society Events

Local history talks will continue online in the autumn as this mode of delivery has proved popular. DB is planning a tree walk.

It was suggested that a ceremony could be linked to one or more of the following: the Platinum Jubilee tree planting in Dulwich Picture Gallery gardens, the launch of the Alastair Hanton bench and the launch of the defibrillator.

Action: All members to consider future events

e) Membership

The Membership report was received. There are currently 1157 members. Members can now join online. JT reported that a Mailchimp landing page for sign up to eNews is being developed and social media will be used to offer prospective members 3 months of eNews free.

f) Unacceptable Behaviour - Report on Investigation

The Secretary's Confidential Report on the Investigation into Unacceptable Behaviour, (which was anonymised), was received. JT said the complaints of unacceptable behaviour had initially been addressed to him as Chair. He had been shocked and concerned at the nature of the complaints and had appointed a small group of Executive Committee members (SB, DMcI and HS) to investigate the complaints confidentially. He thanked them for carrying out the investigation.

Action: HS and DMcI to review the DS Complaints Procedure for the November meeting.

10. Treasurer's Report

Budget reports from the Treasurer were received. In the Treasurer's absence, members were asked to email him with any queries. It was noted that monies are being transferred from COIF to the Monmouthshire Building Society and the signatory role for payments had transferred from IMcI to JT. JP welcomed the new look budget sheets.

Action: All members to email RL with any Finance queries.

11. Consideration of Applications for Society Grants

The Grants List for July 2022 was received.

a) HS said that as reported by the Local History Group, the Sunray Gardens sign was too big for the group to deal with and had been referred back to the Council.
b) The Tollgate sign re-fixing is yet to be progressed.
c) Sydenham Hill Wood funding for improvements to the paths - JP reported that, as agreed at the meeting of 14 March, DS has donated £5,000 as part of the Green Match Fund initiative and that the London Wildlife Trust (LWT) has already received £22,000 in donations towards its target for this year of £50,000. He considered more could have been raised but some individuals were deterred from donating once the match fund target was met.
d) Tribute to Alastair Hanton – dealt with under Matters Arising from the Minutes of 25 April.

e) A new grant request for a donation to the East Dulwich Forum was submitted by JT and SB. The ED Forum is not a charity but is not for profit. It provides an excellent information exchange service throughout Dulwich and its environs. The founders have recently stood down and been replaced by a new management and board who require funds to maintain and upgrade the service. It was agreed £500 should be donated, subject to the Committee being satisfied with the purpose to which the funds would be put.

Action: HS to add ED Forum to the Grants List. JT to make enquiries of ED Forum as to how the funds would be spent.

12. Communications and Media

This item was addressed in the Chair's Report.

13. Licencing

PB noted that Executive Committee had agreed a Minute by email on 7th July as follows:

Re : Licence Application No 877735 : Griffin Sports Club
The Dulwich Society Executive Committee carefully considered details of licence application No 877735 by London Youth Sports Trust Limited to extend the hours of operation at the Griffin Sports Club on Friday and Saturday nights until 01.30 the following day and until 23.30 on Sundays and to play recorded music daily until 30 minutes before closing time.

The Committee were concerned that the extended hours were likely to cause nuisance and disturbance to residents living near the premises and an increased risk of increased crime and disorder if the premises became the scene of late night drinking.

It was unanimously agreed that Patsy Bramble submit a representation opposing this Application on behalf of the Society.

14. Consultation/Planning

The Report of the Planning & Architecture Sub-committee was received. 21 applications were commented on in May, and 18 in June.

PS noted an increase in applications for off-street parking in Burbage Road which would affect the character of the area. Several phone mast applications have been received.

15. Travel & Environment

The Travel & Environment Sub-Committee Report was received. HW reported that there would be no progress on the Dulwich Streetspace Co-design process until Autumn, when comments would be invited from residents and local community groups. Southwark Council are understood to consider the traffic issues settled and the consultation will focus on the public realm, including safety issues.

The Sub-committee has discussed the planned changes to bus services and noted that the No 12 bus route will be replaced by other services (148) and so there will be a change in name but not service. The No 3 will terminate at Victoria instead of Horse Guards, Whitehall. There are arguments for and against this. HW has discussed the proposed changes with the relevant expert on the sub-committee. TFL has undertaken consultation about the bus route changes and the T&E sub-committee has only received one direct comment. JT said he would be happy to

make a representation to Southwark about the changes provided there were cogent reasons for any recommendations. In general, however, the Society encourages individual members to respond to consultations directly rather than issuing a response from the Society.

Where traffic and transport issues are considered controversial, the sub-committee should discuss and give their views to the Executive Committee, which will consider such issues on a case by case basis.

16. Local History Sub-Committee

The Local History Sub-committee report was received. Comments should be sent to IMcI.

17. Gardens Sub-Committee

The Gardens Sub-Committee Report was received. JP said he was submitting a CGS application for a bench in Village Way (£3000) and for enhancement of the Dulwich Village roundabout.

18. Wildlife Sub-Committee

The Wildlife Sub-committee report was received. PR referred the Committee to the information in his articles in the quarterly Journal. He asked whether there was any progress on the Dulwich Hamlet FC development as St. Olave's Field now has a monoculture of one type of grass.

Action: SB to check progress with the DHFC development and the discussions with St Saviour's and St Olave's School on the Greendale field and report back.

19. Trees Sub-Committee

The Trees Sub-Committee Report was received. DB is to attend a meeting on the Sydenham Hill Wood footbridge and plant a tree to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee in the Dulwich Picture Gallery gardens.

20. Dulwich Estate

All DE issues were covered in previous items.

21. Other Dulwich issues and points from Sub-Committee Reports, AOB

SB asked whether any Planning and Architecture Sub-committee minutes were available. PS said she has one set of draft minutes, but the sub-committee has not met to approve them for some time as most of the business is conducted in SoM meetings and by email.

22. Dates of Next Meetings:

Executive Committee: Monday 12 September 2022 at 7.30pm at Bell House

Executive Committee Monday 14 November at 7.30pm at Bell House

Action: HS to circulate suggested dates for 2023 meetings

The meeting ended at 10.10pm

Heather Stubbs, Secretary – The Dulwich Society

Appendix 1

Executive Committee - Register of Interests (as of 11 July 2022)

Kenneth Wolfe (President) – Member of the Friends of Dulwich Square

James Thompson (Chair):

Dulwich Society nominated member of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of The Dulwich Estate
Member of the Safer Neighbourhood Panel of Dulwich Village
Chairman of the committee of the Stradella and Springfield Residents Association (Stradella and Winterbrook Roads and parts of Burbage Road and Half Moon Lane)
Honorary Independent Examiner of the Dulwich Festival
Anne, my spouse, is the Bursar of Herne Hill School

Heather Stubbs (Secretary) – Member of Dulwich Picture Gallery Friends Advisory Panel and organiser of Walks and Tours for Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery

Ian McInnes – Son Tim McInnes is Chair of the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust.

Diana McInnes - Son Tim McInnes is Chair of the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust.

David Beamish – Parish of St Barnabas, Dulwich (Deputy Churchwarden); Dulwich Deanery Synod (Member); Southwark Diocesan Synod (Member); Member of the Southwark Diocesan Council of Trustees and Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance; Volunteer at Dulwich Picture Gallery; Chair of Dulwich & District U3A; Volunteer at Dulwich Village Infants School.

Harry Winter - Vice-Chair, Herne Hill Forum; Safe Routes to School (DS Rep); Stradella and Springfield RA (Committee member responsible for Environment).

Patsy Bramble – Member of Sydenham Hill Ridge Neighbourhood Forum

Penny Stern – Chair of Frank Dixon Way & Close RA

Sharon O'Connor – Trustee of Bell House

Jeremy Prescott - Dulwich Society-nominated members of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of the Dulwich Estate

For Information

The Dulwich Society is a member of the London Forum

The Trees Sub-Committee has membership of The Woodland Trust and Dulwich Park Friends.

The Dulwich Society through the Gardens Sub-committee has affiliated society membership of the Royal Horticultural Society