



## Dulwich Society Executive 543rd Meeting Monday 12 September 2022 at 7.30pm at Bell House

Attendees:

President

Kenneth Wolfe

Officers

James Thompson – Chair

Sue Badman – Vice-Chair (arrived 7.43pm)

Heather Stubbs – Secretary

Russell Lloyd - Treasurer

Sub-Committee Chairs

David Beamish – Trees

Patsy Bramble – Licensing

Ian McInnes – Local History

Jeremy Prescott – Gardens

Peter Roseveare – Wildlife

Penny Stern – Planning and Architecture

Harry Winter – Travel & Environment

Brian Green - Journal Editor

Diana McInnes – Membership

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence

2. Register of Interests

Harry Winter is no longer a member of the Herne Hill Forum and so is no longer a committee member nor vice Chair.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and signed by JT.

**Action: JT to post the Minutes on the website.**

4. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

Society Events – a party to celebrate the Society's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary was discussed. It was agreed that attendees should be charged an amount to cover refreshments (£5-£10) and DS would contribute to accommodation/marquee costs. (After the meeting SB confirmed that the Society cannot contribute to social events under Charity Commission rules).

**Action: JT to check with Dulwich Picture Gallery whether they will have a Pavilion in summer 2023.**

Code of Conduct:

**Action: HS to draft a Code of Conduct for SB/PB to develop and bring to Executive by January 2023.**

Complaints Procedure:

**Action: HS and DMCI to review the Complaints Procedure and bring to November Executive**

Grants: JT has contacted East Dulwich Forum regarding a potential Grant Award and is awaiting a response.

Greendale: PR has spoken to the Friends of Greendale who have informed him that a Judicial Review is expected. One of the private schools is mowing the field.

SB joined the meeting at 7.43

## 5. DS Matters

### α) Chair's Report

The Chair's Report was received.

The Dulwich Society Rules Revision: JT said that in view of the SGM in June not agreeing the proposed new Rules, DS could take a wider view and consider becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). He had circulated a paper setting out the advantages and drawbacks of being a CIO as opposed to an unincorporated charity. A CIO removes exposure to unlimited liabilities for Trustees, whilst avoiding the time-consuming and complex regulations involved in becoming a company. Trustees are currently covered by insurance, but this does not cover all potential risks. Local charities which have become CIOs include Friends of Dulwich Park. DB said the Dulwich & District U3A has also been a CIO for several months. The Charity Commission estimates that the administration involved in becoming a CIO takes approximately 45 days. There is a standard set of Rules for CIOs with members, with very little scope to vary from the template. This would make Rule setting more straightforward. The Objects will remain the same. It was agreed the membership must be consulted and approve a switch to CIO status, with the proposed changes being made clear and communicated in the e-Newsletter and/or Journal prior to any decision being made.

**Action: JT to discuss the Dulwich Park Friends and Dulwich & District U3A experience of being a CIO with Emily Montague and David Beamish. RL to consider the impact on the Society's accounts and banking arrangements. All members to consider JT's CIO paper and come back with comments as soon as possible so that JT can prepare firm proposals for the next meeting.**

DE Scheme of Management Advisory Committee: JT and JP are attending the next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November

Defibrillator: JT reported that some panes of glass are to be replaced at an approximate cost of £300 as they have become cloudy following removal of graffiti. BG said the phone box/needs to be better lit at night and have a notice. JT said a notice is on its way and he would look at the internal light.

Website membership subscription: This is working well. All 7 new members since it was installed have signed up online and DMCl is notified when a new member joins. A landing page and 3 months free e-newsletter offer are in the pipeline.

Meetings: JT and SB will be meeting the Master of Dulwich College on the DE greening strategy and BG to discuss the Journal Editor role.

Communications and Media: The Communications and Media Report was received

Journal Editor Role: BG is stepping down as Journal Editor in 2023 after 20 years in the role. BG said he will edit the forthcoming Winter and Spring editions and be involved in the handover to a new editor. He noted that a new editor may have a different approach to the role. JT thanked BG for his contribution as Journal Editor and assured everyone there will be future opportunities for the Society to express its thanks to him properly. BG said it is a team effort and he is reliant on other members of Executive and beyond to contribute articles.

There was discussion on the future of the Journal and the role of Editor including:

- Whether the Journal should be hard copy or online. It was agreed that the paper copy of the Journal complements the e-newsletter and is highly valued by members.
- The possibility of an editorial board with the Editor and members of Executive overseeing the Journal, and possibly the e-Newsletter and the Open Gardens booklet. There is already an informal editorial board for the e-Newsletter.

**Action: JT and SB to meet BG on 13 September to discuss the Editor role and report back to the November Executive with an options paper**

β) Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair's report was received.

χ) Rules Review

This item was dealt with under matters Arising and Chair's Report

δ) Society Events

Bell House Local History talks will recommence in October with talks planned on Music in Dulwich, Farms to Sports Fields and Georgian Dulwich. IMCl said the talks will initially be on Zoom to see whether there is still a demand for online talks.

There will be a tree-planting during the main planting season.

ε) Membership

The Membership Report and July 2022 postcode analysis were received. DMCl said the Society is posting approximately 200 Journals each time at a cost of £1.60 each for postage. Some members who move from the area volunteer to pay extra for postage so they can continue to receive the Journal.

**Action: DMCl, when issuing renewal reminders to ask those receiving Journals by post to consider a contribution to postage**

φ) Representation on Police Panels

Police Panels: SB has attended Dulwich Village Safer Neighbourhoods Panel and reported that there are two new officers, Fatima Begum and David Beattie. They are a welcome addition, but are on rotation so may not stay long. Some individuals are still using the meetings to protest about LTNs.

It was agreed the Society should attend other police panels. PB usually attends the Dulwich Wood Panel.

**Action: HS to attend the Dulwich Hill police panel. HS and PB to prepare a short entry for e-News on their respective panels. HW to check whether Helen Pickering (T&E Sub-Committee) attends the Goose Green Police Panel. (Following the meeting HW reported that Helen Pickering chairs the Goose Green police panel).**

γ) Charity Commission

(i) Forthcoming provisions of Charities Act 2022

HS reported on the main provisions of the Charities Act 2022 which come into force in Autumn 2022. Most of the changes do not impact directly on the Society.

(ii) Annual Return

HS said the 2022 Annual Return must be completed by 31 October. Most of the necessary information is in place.

**Action: All members to notify HS if they have changed address since last October.**

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Reports were received. RL said there is c£43,000 in the bank. He has moved some money from COIF to Monmouthshire Building Society as this was necessary to confirm and vet our details. As the current interest rate for COIF is 1.5% and Monmouthshire Building Society is 0.6%, the balance will remain in COIF for now. The Society is likely to have a deficit for the year of £4-5k. RL said that as Journal advertisers now make payment directly to the bank, BG will need access to this information to keep track of the accounts for the Journal. JT noted that the deficit was after grants and was consistent with the Society's reserves policy.

7. Consideration of Applications for Society Grants

The Grants List for September 2022 was received.

- a) The Sunray Gardens sign has been referred back to the Council and there is no progress on the Tollgate sign. IMCl asked for this item to be marked as "Withdrawn" rather than "Completed."
- b) JP said the Sydenham Hill Wood funding can be marked as "Completed" as £5,000 has been donated by DS. However the works are yet to be completed.
- c) Tribute to Alastair Hanton - the location of the bench in Court lane is agreed and JP has asked LB Southwark to repair the area beneath the bench prior to installation.
- d) Plaque on memorial bench to Sandy Alexander – this has now been installed at no cost to the Society. IMCl has taken a photo of Sandy's wife Jill sitting on the bench. This item to be marked "Completed."
- e) JT has followed up the recommendation for a donation to the East Dulwich Forum to ask how the money would be spent but has not yet received a reply.

- f) The Dulwich Park Veteran Oaks project, to which DS has committed £2,625 (50%) and Joint Sponsorship, has commenced with feeding of the roots having taken place.
- g) HS reported a request from an East Dulwich resident for seedcorn funding for local parents to sell, shop or swap baby and children's items and school uniform, thereby providing money-saving opportunities and reducing environmental impact. Reservations were expressed as there are several similar groups in existence which can be promoted via EDF or Whatsapp groups.

**Action: HS to check with regard to item (g) what any donation would be spent on**

#### 8. Licensing and Events Sub-Committee

The Committee carefully considered details of licence application No 878267 by DMD Entertainment Group Limited for a cocktail bar/restaurant at premises on Norwood Road.

They noted that the application seeks terminal hours of business ( Thursday - Saturday 02.00 and Sunday - Wednesday 24.00) beyond the recommended closing times for restaurants and pubs/wine bars in Herne Hill by one hour (2 hours on Thursdays) and for recorded and live music until closing time. Furthermore, in the view of the Committee, the applicant had failed to address adequately how it would meet the licensing objectives, particularly the prevention of public nuisance and the prevention of law and disorder; they felt that the extended hours were likely to cause nuisance and disturbance and an increased risk of increased crime and disorder if the premises were to become a late night drinking and music venue more akin to a nightclub . It was unanimously agreed that Patsy Bramble submit a representation opposing this Application on behalf of the Society.

**Action: PB to notify Southwark that the Maroon application is opposed by DS on the grounds that the opening hours should comply with Southwark's recommended hours.**

#### 9. Consultation/Planning

The Report of the Planning & Architecture Sub-committee was received. 18 applications were commented on in July, and 10 in August

PS noted a reduction in applications, possibly because pandemic-related building works are drawing to a close and also the increasing cost of building works.

The Sub-Committee has objected to the siting of a 5G mast near Kingswood House as this could obscure visibility of children crossing the road. It was agreed that PB will keep PS posted about a mast application in the Dulwich Wood area.

PS has been asked for comment from Frank Dixon Way on a Peckham Town FC application, but it is too far away to justify a response.

DMcl commented on the high ratio of objections to applications (approximately 50%) and asked whether there were any lessons to be learned for the planning process. PS said DE does not vet applications before sending them to the P&A Sub-Committee. She is arranging a meeting with Nadine Brown-Williams to discuss this. She said the DE SoM meets monthly but updates the status of licence applications on its website irregularly. PS said an objection does not necessarily equate to a rejection but may mean an adaptation. JP reported that the DE Advisory Committee has agreed to check applications more carefully.

- a) LB Southwark Consultation on Local List (buildings of architectural and historical interest).

IMCl reported that he (representing Local History) and PS are meeting on 13 September to discuss DS's response to the request to identify local buildings of interest. He said votes are important to get a building on the list, so there will be a post in e-News with links to vote. The deadline is 30<sup>th</sup> November.

#### 10. Travel & Environment

The Travel & Environment Sub-committee Report was received.

##### a) North Dulwich Train Service

Barry Coker, a member of the T&E Sub-committee has reported that the North Dulwich train service now consists of 4 trains an hour.

##### b) London City Airport Expansion Consultation

The T&E Sub-Committee has prepared a response to the London City Airport Expansion Consultation exercise opposing all the expansion proposals. The response was agreed by the Executive Committee with the addition of a paragraph on the impact on urban wildlife and has been submitted as part of the consultation.

BG said the erratic parking of e-bikes was a big issue for members and asked if the T&E Sub-Committee had any proposals to make. Following discussion it was noted that the companies who provide the bikes could do more to address the issue.

RL reported that on 1 October, pre-war buses will be running on the 37 route.

**Action: HW to Put "Parking of e-bikes" on the T&E Sub-committee agenda.**

#### 11. Local History Sub-Committee

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

##### α) Terms of reference of Local History Sub-Committee

These were received and commended.

**Action: All Sub-committees which do not already have Terms of Reference to prepare them and send to Executive Committee for approval prior to publishing on the website.**

#### 12. Gardens Sub-Committee

The Gardens Sub-committee report was received. JP said work had been undertaken in Village Way/Clark's Green area. PS suggested that DS should receive credit on a sign.

#### 13. Wildlife Sub-Committee

The Wildlife Sub-committee report was received. PR said the committee had discussed how to reduce astro-turfing which is a biodiversity disaster.

**Action: Wildlife and Gardens Sub-Committees to discuss ways to reduce astro-turfing.**

#### 14. Trees Sub-Committee

The Trees Sub-committee Report was received. DB recommended that the DS tree to be planted in Dulwich Picture Gallery garden originally to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, should, in view of Queen Elizabeth's II's death now be a tribute to her whole life. This was unanimously agreed

**Action: DB to select a tree for planting to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's life.**

#### 15. Dulwich Estate

BG said we should report to membership on progress on the development of the Grove Tavern Site. IMCI said it is currently an eyesore at the entrance to Dulwich and pressure must be put on DE to take action. As a minimum, DE should have an "oven-ready" plan to develop the site once Stonegate's lease comes to an end. JT/SB said DS had made this case on a number of occasions but they will go back to DE to say how strongly the Committee feels.

It was noted that the Skateboarders were using the site to good effect, not only for skateboarding but for a vegetable garden and drama productions and an alternative site will be needed for them eventually.

**Action: JT/SB to revisit issue of the Grove Tavern with DE.**

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

- a) Bylaws – It was noted by SB and JT that a Code of Conduct can be created as a bylaw within the current rules and need not await the approval of new rules.
- b) HW noted that the Dulwich Streetspace co-design process will commence shortly.
- c) It was noted that currently it is only possible to schedule Zoom meetings on the Society's account from a limited number of registered devices.

**Action: HS to investigate how to enable all Executive Committee members to schedule meetings on the Zoom account.**

#### 17. Dates of Next Meetings:

Executive Committee: Monday 14 November 2022 at 7.30pm at Bell House

Proposed Meeting dates for 2023 had been circulated.

**Action: HS to re-circulate suggested dates for 2023 meetings and all members to respond swiftly identifying any problems.**

The meeting ended at 9.45pm

**Heather Stubbs, Secretary**

**James Thompson, Chairman**

**14 November 2022**

## Appendix 1

### Executive Committee - Register of Interests (as of 12 September 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 - 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

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