



Dulwich Society Executive 545th Meeting Monday 9 January 2023 at 7.30pm at Bell House

Attendees:

President

Kenneth Wolfe

Officers

James Thompson – Chair

Sue Badman – Vice-Chair

Russell Lloyd – Treasurer

Heather Stubbs – Secretary

Sub-Committee Chairs

David Beamish – Trees

Patsy Bramble – Licensing

Jeremy Prescott – Gardens

Peter Roseveare – Wildlife

Penny Stern – Planning and Architecture

Harry Winter – Travel & Environment

Brian Green - Journal Editor

1. Apologies

Ian McInnes – Local History

Diana McInnes – Membership

2. Register of Interests

JP reported that he is no longer a Dulwich Society-nominated member of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of the Dulwich Estate. His wife is a committee member of the Friends of Dulwich Park.

PS is now a Dulwich Society-nominated member of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of the Dulwich Estate

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of 14th November 2022 were approved for signature by JT.

Action: JT to post the Minutes on the website.

4. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

Tulip Tree in Dulwich Village: An application was lodged with LBS to remove a Tulip Tree, as it is hazardous, and replace with the same species. HS had lodged a comment on behalf of DS that the tree should be removed and replaced with a different species which will not grow to such a

significant size. DB/PS reported that a Tree Preservation Order has now been placed on the tree as it is a mature tree. The Committee expressed concern as the tree represents a danger.

Proposed meeting with Southwark on shortcomings of the consultation process on the LTN/Streets for People: JT has spoken to Councillor Newens who is happy to hold a meeting. It was noted that the consultation process is not yet complete and that it is essential for DE and LBS to liaise over public realm plans for Dulwich Village to ensure harmonisation.

Action: HS to draft list of concerns regarding the consultation process and suggestions as to how these can be ameliorated.

New Policies: The Code of Conduct, Termination of Membership Policy and revised Complaints Policy have been uploaded to the website and flagged in the e-Newsletter. They will be reported in the Spring Journal as the deadline for the Winter Journal was missed.

Planning/raised structures in gardens:

Action: PS to provide specific instances of raised structures in gardens for JT to raise with DE.

5. DS Matters

α) Chair's Report

The Chair's Report was received.

Streets for People

The Chair reported that LBS is disappointed at the number of responses on the public realm. JT, SB, and PS (and a substitute for PS to ensure relevant planning knowledge) have represented DS at meetings with LBS as part of the consultation with key stakeholders at Stage 2 of the public engagement. These meetings have been restricted to matters pertaining to the public realm (i.e. not traffic) and have not included discussion of the public realm adjacent to Turney Road as the closure of part of Turney Road is still subject to consultation.

Editorship of Journal

BG will edit the Spring Journal as his last. It is proposed that the Journal continues as a quarterly printed publication and that the editorship consists of one or two people with an additional person to administer the advertising and an editorial board. JT and SB have met three people who have expressed an interest in the editor role, one of whom at this stage does not have time to fulfil the editorial role and will be invited to be a member of the Editorial Board. JT/SB confirmed that one of the other candidates or a combination of two will fulfil the role. One of the candidates has arranged to meet with BG for a briefing and the appointment(s) will be announced shortly. It was agreed that the new editor(s) should be members of the Executive Committee. The Editorial Board will consist of JT, SB, Sharon O'Connor (the editor of the e-Newsletter) and the candidate who is unable to act in an editorial role at present as well as the editor(s). It was noted that the Editorial Board should reflect a diverse range of interests and that its role (advisory or managerial) should be defined in conjunction with the editor(s).

Unfortunately there have so far been no expressions of interest in the Journal Advertising Administrator role. It is estimated to take 1-2 days a month. There is a regular group of local businesses who advertise and currently there is only one vacancy. BG recommended keeping

all advertisements together at the end of the Journal. A contracted out service may be considered for the advertising role, as is currently in use for the Gardens Booklet.

Action: JT/SB to draft terms of reference of the Editorial Board and firm up the appointments to the Editor role(s) and Editorial Board. Everyone to encourage applications for the Journal Advertising Administrator role.

Rules

JT is in the process of drafting proposed new Rules for a Trust based on the CIO template. SB and JP have commented. It was agreed the proposed new Rules will be presented to the 2023 AGM, followed by consultation and feedback from members for the final version to be approved at the 2024 AGM.

Action: JT to circulate proposed new Rules to Executive Committee.

DE Advisory Committee Scheme of Management

JP has stood down as DS representative and JT will continue. The Advisory Committee has expressed its thanks to JP. PS will replace JP on the Advisory Committee. Other changes in the Advisory Committee were noted, including Andreas Kottering, who has been an effective Chair for the last 3 years, standing down. He will be replaced as Chair by Irene Bishop.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is on 21 March.

Action: All members to suggest topics for the next Advisory Committee.

DE Beneficiaries Meeting

JT had attended the recent meeting where there was considerable interest in an item on sustainability.

IT

JT noted that the new online system for Direct Debits is going well. DB stressed the need for more than one individual to have the password for the online DD system and was assured there is backup.

White Posts and Chains

SB asked about the situation regarding white posts and chains. JT said DE was considering a proposal to work with LBS to maintain those currently under Southwark's control.

β) Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair's report was received.

Aquinna

SB reported that the Aquinna notice-board needs updating. Planning consent has been granted to move the stone from the Soane Place exterior wall to the burial ground. Aquinna needs to know the consecration status of the Burial Ground. PS noted there is a proposed planning application for an air conditioning unit on each house.

Edward Alleyn Statue

SB will make it a priority in the next two months to regularise information on insurance, ownership and security of the statue. Post-Meeting Note: The insurance invoice for 2020/2021 has been received from the Dulwich Estate and the 2021/2022 invoice will be sent shortly.

Velodrome

The Velodrome Nursery has submitted a revised application in response to concerns regarding noise and Metropolitan Open Land. It is expected there will be a committee hearing which SB and local residents will attend. It was noted there are two declarations of interest on the Executive Committee relating to the Velodrome.

Herne Hill Forum

SB has been accepted as a member of the HHF "Re-imagining Herne Hill" committee.

Dulwich Estate Surgery

There are a number of vacant shop units, (Biff is closing), but DE has some good leads to fill the vacant units.

Grove Tavern

SB and Sharon O'Connor attended a Skateboarders event with demonstrations of skateboarding, drama and gardening, followed by a panel.

DE will act quickly to improve the appearance of the Grove when the current lease comes to an end (or sooner of possible) and is working on development plans and relocation opportunities for the skateboarders.

Boundary Commission

Having commented against the previously published proposal, DS has supported the new Boundary Commission proposal for a Dulwich/West Norwood constituency and requested there be no reversion to the previous plan. HS agreed this was the most satisfactory option but expressed regret that East Dulwich will now be in a separate constituency from the rest of Dulwich.

CGS Multi-Ward Meeting

JP will attend this meeting to support DS bids.

Dulwich Village Safer Neighbourhood Panel on 15 November

SB's bullet point report from this meeting was received.

χ) Rules Review

This item was dealt with under the Chair's Report

δ) Society events

ι) DS 60th Anniversary Party

The venue has been agreed as Dulwich College and the preferred time an evening in mid July. Details and an application form will appear in the Spring Journal. Tickets, (which according to charity regulations should not be subsidised from charity funds), will be sold via Eventbrite or BG's shop for those with no access to the internet. It was agreed there should be a local history display of the last 60 years and musical entertainment.

Actions: JT to confirm arrangements and agree timings and costs with Dulwich College. JT to inform BG of details by 26 January for the Journal. SB to check Eventbrite account and conduct a Risk Assessment for the event. HS to offer assistance to the party planners. IMcl to prepare a history display. Everyone to consider which non-members to invite.

ιι) Dulwich Festival

IMcl/JT have proposed an exhibition on local history and local talks/walks as part of the Dulwich Festival in May.

ε) Membership

The Membership Report was received. JT commented on the encouraging number of joiners in recent months including some from East Dulwich.

The list of individuals receiving free copies of the Journal was reviewed:

- Schools - Currently those schools which DS has contact with receive a free copy. It was agreed that all local schools should be sent a copy with a covering letter inviting them to contact the Society if they wish to continue receiving copies of the Journal and/or e-Newsletter. The letter should be followed up with a phone call where possible.
- Libraries – add Grove Vale Library
- Councillors – add Councillor James McAsh, Goose Green Ward
- Add Abbeyfield
- Add Herne Hill Forum

Action: HS to draft letter to schools. DMcl to amend list of free copy recipients

φ) Risk Register and Policy

HS had circulated a draft Risk Register itemising potential risks with scores for likelihood, impact and severity.

It was agreed that more emphasis should be given to impact and that a small group (HS, SB, JP, DB) would meet to develop the Risk Register further, identifying steps to mitigate the risks from which an action plan will flow. It was further agreed that there should be an

overarching policy including the preparation of regular risk assessments and annual review of the register.

Action: HS to convene meeting of Risk Group (Zoom) and draft a Risk Management Policy

γ) Annual Report

HS asked for ½ page annual reports from each Sub-committee Chair and lead officer by 17th February so that these can be merged into a draft Annual Report for DS to be posted on the website in early April prior to the AGM on 24th April.

Action: All Sub-committee Chairs and lead officers to send annual reports for 2022 for their area to HS by 17th February.

6. Communications and Media Report

The Media and Communications Report from Sharon O'Connor was received. The growth in Twitter followers for the Society account and the Local History Group account was welcomed.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Reports were received. RL reported that there is approximately £42k in the bank accounts. This represents a £10k loss during the year after donations have been made but the loss may be reduced if some of the outstanding Journal advertising income comes in before the year end. SB noted that the invoice for insurance of the Edward Alleyn statue is still not available. (Post-Meeting Note: See Post-Meeting Note in Vice Chair's report)

Action: BG to follow up advertising revenue. RL to finalise draft 2022 accounts by the end of February for posting on the website in early April with the Annual Report.

8. Consideration of Applications for Society Grants

The Grants List for FY 2022 was received. It was agreed that the donation for the defibrillator should be added to this list. The email decision to donate £100 to the Dulwich Village Christmas Tree was noted and approved.

It was noted that £2,625 (50% of Dulwich Park Veteran Oaks Project) has not yet been paid but will be accrued to 2022.

The Grants List for January 2023 was received. It was noted that the £1,800 agreed for the Cox's Walk Listening Post is attributable to the Mary Boast Fund.

The email decision to donate £540 to weld together the boundary marker at Sunray Gardens was noted and agreed.

HS to update FY 2022 Grants List and January 2023 Grants List accordingly.

9. Licensing and Events Sub-Committee

The Licensing and Events Sub-committee Report was received. PB said this has been a quiet period.

Re: Premises Licence Application No 879182: Fireaway Pizza 69 Norwood Road

The Application was read and considered. It was noted that the opening hours sought, 11.00 - 03.00 daily exceed by some hours Southwark Council's recommended closing times for take-away food establishments in Herne Hill (a District Town Centre) which are Friday- Saturday 01.00

and Sunday - Thursday 00.00. The Committee members were concerned that were the establishment to remain open daily until 03.00 it might well cause public nuisance and also result also an increase in crime and disorder in the neighbourhood.

It was unanimously agreed that Patsy Bramble make a representation on behalf of the Society opposing the application and the hours requested but confirmed she could agree to withdraw the representation if the applicant agreed to reduce closing times daily so they do not exceed Southwark Council's recommended closing times for take-away food establishments in Herne Hill.

10. Consultation/Planning

The Report of the Planning & Architecture Sub-committee was received. 23 applications were commented on in November and 19 in December.

PS noted the Herne Hill Velodrome Nursery re-submission and said a relocation to an area with less noise impact would be welcomed by the local residents. She noted that were the outdoor nursery to be provided with any permanent structures, the Committee would object on grounds of contravention of Metropolitan Open Land.

Peckham Town Football Club want to improve their site on Dulwich Common and they have held discussions with the Estate who have been talking to Southwark Council about the PTFC plans. PTFC have been advised to consult with local residents and inform them of their plans.

Brian Green asked about the Dulwich Hamlet Football Club. They have planning consent to relocate their pitch and stands as well as build a large number of homes at the Dog Kennel Hill site. The development has been delayed due to continuing legal action. The legal action has failed and the development can therefore go ahead. This is likely to happen later this year.

Action: SB agreed to confirm the position with the DHFC development and inform BG.

11. Travel & Environment

The Travel and Environment Sub-committee Report was received. HW reported that the T&E Sub-committee is not focussing on traffic/LTNs at present but is prioritising the climate crisis, pavements and traffic safety.

12. Local History Sub-Committee

The Local History Sub-committee report was received.

13. Gardens Sub-Committee

The Gardens Sub-committee Report was received. JP announced forthcoming Garden talks, a coach trip and the publication of the Dulwich Open Gardens booklet. He said there is currently a small loss on advertising.

JP noted that DE has picked up on some of the Committee's recommendations on watering systems, changes of ground level, inappropriate landscaping and planting and is including these in its Garden Guidelines. However, as the SoM deals with structures it is not able to ban artificial lawns. JP hopes the Guidelines will be a good start and has asked to see a copy before publication.

- α) The Gardens Sub-committee terms of reference carried forward from the previous meeting were approved for publication on the website.
- β) The letter of support from JP to London Wildlife Trust for re-uniting Sydenham Hill Wood and Dulwich Hill Wood projects, previously agreed by email, was noted and approved.

Action: HS to post Gardens Sub-committee terms of reference on the website.

14. Wildlife Sub-Committee

The Wildlife Sub-committee Report was received. PR expressed concerns over loss of wildlife. PR has met with JP to discuss wildlife populations and they agreed to make contact with DE on this issue.

The Wildlife Sub-committee has been working constructively with Sharon O'Connor to gain more interaction with members through the e-Newsletter.

A Batwalk was recommended possibly as part of the Dulwich Festival.

Action: PR/JP to contact DE on the subject of Wildlife. PR to investigate a Batwalk.

15. Trees Sub-Committee

The Trees Sub-committee Report was received. DB is seeking a suitable species of elm to celebrate the life of Queen Elizabeth II and to be planted in Dulwich Picture Gallery gardens. PR commented that elms provide food for one of the rarest species of butterfly, the White-letter Hairstreak, of which there is known to be a colony in Dulwich.

It was agreed the elm should be purchased in time for this year's planting season. DB said he is seeking advice on the planting procedure.

Action: DB to progress purchase and planting of the elm. DB to draft a piece for the e-Newsletter inviting applications for membership of the Trees Sub-committee.

16. Dulwich Estate

This item was covered under the Chair's and Vice Chair's Reports.

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

JT reported that the Herne Hill Forum is running a series of events on green issues with the first meeting on 18 January. It was agreed DS should work with HHF on the 23 January event and to provide participants advice regarding the impact of DE guidelines.

18. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 13 March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Macandrew Room at Bell House

The meeting ended at 9.50pm

Heather Stubbs, Secretary

James Thompson

13/3/23

Appendix 1

Executive Committee - Register of Interests (as of 9 January 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; Dulwich Society-nominated member of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of the Dulwich Estate

Jeremy Prescott - Wife is a committee member of the Friends of Dulwich Park.

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