Dulwich Society Executive 547th Meeting Monday 9 May 2023 at 7.30pm at Bell House

Attendees:

President
Kenneth Wolfe

Officers
James Thompson – Chair
Heather Stubbs– Secretary

Sub-Committee Chairs
David Beamish – Trees
Patsy Bramble – Licensing
Diana McInnes – Membership Secretary
Ian McInnes – Local History and Journal Co-Editor
Jeremy Prescott – Gardens
Peter Roseveare – Wildlife
Penny Stern – Planning and Architecture

1. Apologies
   Sue Badman – Vice-Chair
   Russell Lloyd – Treasurer
   Claire Richards – Journal Co-Editor
   Harry Winter – Travel & Environment

2. Register of Interests

   Claire Richards is Chair of Lambeth Wind Orchestra and a member of Dulwich Symphony Orchestra.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

   The Minutes of 13th March 2023 were approved and signed by JT.

   Action: JT to post the Minutes on the website.

4. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere

   Internal Controls: **Action: the Treasurer to respond to action points in Minutes of 13 March**

   Licensing: Gala Limited Peckham Rye Park Festival: PB reported that although approved, a licence has not yet been granted, so it is not known what conditions apply. It seems that no account has been taken of representations about noise and anti-social behaviour, but Gala has undertaken to put right any damage occurring.

5. Minutes of AGM on 24th April 2023

The Minutes have been drafted and will be circulated to Executive Committee in due course

6. Matters Arising

To be addressed once the minutes are circulated

7. DS Matters

a) Chair's Report

The Chair's Report was received.

Traffic: JT had circulated a statement from Southwark and noted that the expected announcement on Turney Road had been put back.

DE Scheme of Management Advisory Committee: The next meeting is on 27th June. JT and PS will attend

Action: Any agenda items for the Advisory Committee to be forwarded to JT

Website: Sharon O'Connor and the webmaster are working on "Destination Dulwich" pages for the website to encourage visitors to Dulwich.

Meetings: School meetings have been arranged with Alleyn's Junior School and Heber School and with Dulwich College on green issues. JT has met Anna Skipwith, a social media consultant who works with Dulwich Village retailers and manages the "thisisdulwich" Instagram account.

b) Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair's report was received.

Aquinna: PS reported that the Planning and Architecture Sub-committee has objected to Aquinna's proposal to remove wheelchair access from the one accessible unit in the Soane Place development.

Herne Hill Velodrome: PS reported that a retrospective application to clear ground was approved on 2nd May and a planning application for the use of land for a nursery is under consideration, with some issues regarding noise yet to be addressed.

c) North Parade Proposals/Tulip Tree

It was reported that SB had attended a meeting in North Parade with representatives of Southwark Council and Dulwich Estate to consider the Tulip Tree, the roots of which present a hazard to pedestrians. It was agreed at the meeting that there was urgency to resolve the issue, that the tree should be retained if at all possible, and that measures to level the pavement around the tree would be explored. The Estate plans to install a bench around the tree, once the ground is levelled.

d) West Dulwich Traffic Consultation

It was noted that the consultation has now closed. The proposals have the potential to impact traffic through Dulwich.

Post meeting note: The consultation now closes on 21 May

e) Format for Executive Committee meetings

It was agreed that in future:

- All reports will be circulated by the Secretary at least a week in advance of the meeting and will be taken as read at the meeting.
- Sub-Committee Reports will be condensed to a single agenda item "Any other business arising from Sub-committee reports" which will provide an opportunity for updates and for members to raise comments or questions on the reports.
- With effect from the meeting of 10 July, Sub-committee reports will be combined into a single PDF document to be posted on the website with the minutes.

There was discussion regarding the frequency of meetings. It was agreed to retain the current schedule of meetings every 2 months.

f) Follow Up from AGM

(i) It was noted that some of the comments at the AGM, particularly in relation to traffic issues, were of a personal nature and not consistent with the Code of Conduct. There were reports of conversations with attendees who commented on the poor behaviour. It was agreed that at future general meetings a statement will be issued at the start of the meeting regarding the importance of being polite and supportive of other members and respecting their views and opinions.

(ii) Considerable interest was expressed at the AGM in Dulwich Estate's Green Strategy, and the need to make more progress. JT said he wishes to see the Society working with DE on a longer term view and on balancing the need to enhance energy efficiency with the conservation of the architecture and aesthetics of Dulwich. It was agreed that the Travel and Environment Sub-committee should play a leading role on this issue.

Action: JT to speak to HW about the T&E committee role in progressing green strategy

(iii) A view was expressed at the AGM that the system of voting for officers and members of the Committee in blocks was undemocratic. This method has been used for some years and was confirmed by the Executive Committee at its last meeting, prior to the AGM. If the new Rules are adopted at the 2024 AGM, this issue will be resolved as there will be retirement from the Committee by rotation. Discussion will take place at a future meeting regarding the voting system for the 2024 AGM at which the current rules will still apply.

g) Rules Review

The 6 month consultation on the draft new Rules was announced at the AGM, and has been promoted in eNews and on the website.

Action: IMcI/CR to include an item on the Rules Review in the Autumn Journal. HS to increase the prominence of the Rules Review on the website.

h) Insurance

SB has renewed the Society's Insurance Policy with Marsh Commercial at an annual premium of £1,372. This is higher than previous years as it includes cover for volunteers. It also provides 3rd party cover for events organised by the Society.

i) Society Events

(i) 60th Anniversary Party 13th July

32 tickets have been sold on Eventbrite to date.

The list of invited guests was agreed.

IMcI said a volunteer would be needed to update the history display.

It was agreed that background music should be arranged.

As Brian Green is unable to attend on 13th July, an alternative event in June to mark his service to the Society is being discussed with Brian.

Action: JT to issue invitations to guests and speak to CR about background music

(ii) Dulwich Festival

It was noted that the Dulwich Festival 12th-21st May is set to be bigger and better than ever with many events sold out. The Society's Local History Group is offering 5 walks as part of the Festival, two on Georgian Dulwich with Ian McInnes and three on Social Radicals in Dulwich with Duncan Bowie.

j) Membership

The Membership Report was received. DMcI raised the issue of honorary and honorary life memberships as there are currently no consistent criteria for awarding these. It was agreed that no further honorary memberships will be awarded.

k) Editorial Committee

IMcI reported that the Summer Journal is with the printers. He noted the need for the Editorial Committee to resolve copyright issues and said it is helpful if those providing photos for articles take their own photos rather than using images from the internet.

l) Health and Safety Policy

The draft Health and Safety Policy was approved and the Health and Safety Policy Statement signed by the Chair and Secretary.

Action: HS to post the Health and Safety Policy on the website with the appendices (Risk Assessment Form and Incident/Accident Report Form) posted as separately downloadable documents. In line with the policy, HS to draft a Lone Volunteers Policy and purchase a small First Aid Kit for use at events.

m) Dulwich Picture Gallery Planning Application

The planning application for a Children's Gallery and Sculpture Garden at Dulwich Picture Gallery is on Southwark's website. The Planning and Architecture Sub-committee is meeting on 10th May to consider the application. PS asked for any comments to be sent to her.

Action: Planning and Architecture Sub-committee to decide an appropriate response to Dulwich Picture Gallery's planning application and PS to circulate this to the Committee.

8. Communications and Media Report

   The Communications and Media Report from Sharon O'Connor was received.

9. Treasurer's Report

   The Treasurer's Reports were received.

   Action: RL/HS to agree a method for reconciling the Grants list and the Accounts. JP to ask RL for an update on Monmouthshire Building Society's interest rate.

10. Consideration of Applications for Society Grants

    The Grants List for May 2023 was received.

    The following grants which had been decided in a previous year or by email were noted for the minutes:

    a) £500 grant to Dulwich Vegetable Garden for a glasshouse to be donated in 2024
    b) £409 for Tollgate sign (previously agreed by the Committee in 2021).
    c) £300 for restoration of murals on Burbage Road Railway Bridge

11. Licensing and Events Sub-Committee

    The Licensing and Events Sub-committee Report was received.

    PB reported on an application to serve/sell alcohol at a small bakery in East Dulwich. It was agreed there were no grounds for objection.

    It was noted that a large Pokemon event this summer in Brockwell Park had been accepted by Lambeth without consultation, and we should be alert to this in Southwark.

12. Consultation/Planning

    The Planning and Architecture Sub-committee report was received. PS drew attention to the Sub-committee's objection to an application for eight air conditioning units in a single property, on the basis of noise.

13. Travel & Environment

    The Travel and Environment Sub-committee Report was received. It was agreed that there should be a greater focus on environmental strategy by the T&E Sub-committee.

14. Local History Sub-committee

    The Local History Sub-committee Report was received. IMcI reported that the Dulwich Library Information Board has been installed. A request has been made for an Information Board in Woodwarde Road to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of Joan Woodward (wife of Edward Alleyn). IMcI has assisted with the content of the Board and a donation of £400 is sought from the Society.

    Action: JT to circulate an email requesting views on the proposed donation of £400 for the Joan Woodward Information Board.

15. Gardens Sub-Committee

The Gardens Sub-committee Report was received. JP was commended on successful CGS applications, progress on Court Lane raised beds and finalising a location for Alastair Hanton's bench and the wording for its plaque.

16. Wildlife Sub-Committee

The Wildlife Sub-committee Report was received. PR reported that Mandy Rudd and Ben Town of Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL) have completed a comprehensive Ecological Data Search on Greendale Playing Fields. This is of great interest to the Wildlife Sub-committee, who have thanked GIGL on behalf of the Society. The report will be circulated for discussion at the next meeting

PR also announced a Wildflower Walk in Greendale on the evening of 15th June led by Roy Vickery of the South London Botanical Institute.

Action: HS to circulate the Greendale Ecological Report to Executive Committee and ask Sharon O'Connor to promote the Wildflower Walk in the June eNews.

17. Trees Sub-Committee

The Trees Sub-committee Report was received. DB reported that an elm tree donated by Southwark was to be the memorial tree celebrating the 70 year reign of Queen Elizabeth II. JP has planted the tree in the Dulwich Picture Gallery gardens and DB has prepared a plaque. A small event will be organised on a midweek morning with the plaque being unveiled by JT and a representative of Dulwich Picture Gallery. **(This has now been arranged for 2 June at 11am).**

In response to the item in the Trees report, suggesting planting trees in the space outside Dulwich Park College gate, PS said that that this area is earmarked for an e-scooter parking bay.

DB noted a proposal by London Woodland Trust/Sydenham Hill Wood to save two oaks threatened by a planned footbridge at a cost of approximately £1,000,000.

18. Dulwich Estate

Nothing further to report

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

Nothing further to report

20. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 10 July 2023 at 7.30pm in the Macandrew Room at Bell House

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

Heather Stubbs, Secretary

Signed: *James Thompson* (James Thompson, Chair) **Date: 10 July 2023**

Appendix 1

Executive Committee - Register of Interests (as of 9 May 2023)

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

Sue Badman (Vice Chair) - Safeguarding Officer and Member of Parochial Church Council, St Simon Zelotes, Chelsea, SW3; also member of Chelsea Safeguarding Group; Teacher of English as a Second Language (Chelsea – part of All Souls Church Free English group); Member of "Re-imagining Herne Hill" working group (Part of the Herne Hill Forum); Member/Attendee of Dulwich Village Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

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

Peter Roseveare is a member of the Burbage Road Residents Association.

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 Dulwich Park Friends.

Claire Richards - Chair of Lambeth Wind Orchestra and a member of Dulwich Symphony Orchestra.

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