MINUTES OF THE 200TH MEETING OF THE GARDEN COMMITTEE OF THE DULWICH SOCIETY HELD ON MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2022 AT 142, COURT LANE, DULWICH

In attendance:

Jeremy Prescott, Chair, JP, Carol Britton CB, Joanna French JF, Jean Cary-Elwes JCE, Elizabeth Rankin ER, Ann Rutherford AR.

1 **Minutes of 199th meeting** were signed. The Chair noted that this meeting, the 200th, was a milestone event in the history of the Garden Committee.

2 **Coach trip in 2023 JP**

JP has researched and suggested a number of combinations of gardens to visit.

- Sussex Prairie and Wakehurst Place, NT- cost c£32 for National Trust members. (After discussion, this was the group's preferred choice)
- Sussex Prairie Garden with Borde Hill c £40
- Sussex Prairie with Leonardslee Lakes c £44

Sussex Prairie might be best in July.

- Great Comp and Ightham Mote (NT, no real garden) - cost c£29 for NT members
- Great Comp and Merriments Garden - cost c£37
- Great Comp and Lullingstone World Gardens - cost c£39
- Pashley Manor Gardens and Batemans NT - cost c£34 for NT members
- West Green House NT and Upton Grey Manor House (rescued Gertrude Jekyll garden) - cost c£31 for NT members.

JP will revisit some of these and refine suggestion (Sussex Prairie and Wakehurst Place are the favourites)..

3. **Talk(s) in 2023 - CB/JP**

Monday 18th April 2023 has been suggested by Martin Duncan, the head gardener at Arundel. CB to research venues (eg JAGS) with a Zoom via Bell House as the fallback.

4. **Local visits in 2023 - JF/JP**

- Grange Lane allotments – in contact with Tyrrell Evans, Chair
- Clapham – Eden Nature Garden (StPaul's) + 35 Turret Grove (Wayne Amiel)
- Horniman Museum gardens
- Vauxhall Community Gardens
- A local garden?

5. **Projects**

JP reported on various local projects that the Dulwich Society is supporting:

Sydenham Hill Woods. The London Wildlife Trust has raised £35,000 towards their target of £50,000. Path work will be starting shortly. The Dulwich Society donated £5,000 of matched funding.

- Clark's Green benches. The DS has applied to Southwark Council's Cleaner Greener Safer Fund (CGS) for £3,000.

- Village roundabout planting. The DS has applied to the CGS fund for £1,000.

- Burial Ground – JP has planted 3 dozen primroses and cowslips.

* JP has suggested amendments to The Dulwich Estate of its Guidelines for Garden structures etc, to include watering systems and artificial lawns, which it is studying.

- Court Lane raised beds. They are over 100 years old and in need of repair and replanting. Some of the beds are overgrown with ivy, weeds and mature trees and shrubs the roots of which are pushing outwards and damaging the stonework. All the beds need attention.

  Court Lane RA as applied to the CGS for an initial £3,000. The DS may need to handle any finances on behalf of the RA.

- Gardeners' World - JP
  Aruna Iyengar, a Dulwich resident, is a BBC producer/director of Gardeners' World. They are looking for local gardens of interest to film for the programme – one result has been the piece on Helen Tu and the Grange Lane Allotments.

- Gardeners' Question Time (with the SLBI and LHS) – no progress. Liley to await building work at SLBI over the next year.

6. **2023 brochure - JP**
   Advertising rates have been increased

7. **Terms of Reference for the Committee**
   Following a Special General meeting earlier this year, all sub-committees of the Dulwich Society have been asked to provide their Terms of Reference. The draft was discussed and approved.

8. **AOB**
   CB raised the issue of the unhygienic state of the service road behind 2a, 2b and 2c Alleyn Road. The DE has promised cameras, not yet installed. CB suggested planting in tubs to enhance the area and tidy up the space. JP suggested finding volunteers to help and to contact the Council to insist that the bins are emptied.

9. Date of next meeting

Monday 5th December at 10.30am at 105, Dulwich Village by courtesy of Ann Rutherford.

Signed by .....
Chair

Date 6/12/23