

The Dulwich Society

Minutes of 160th meeting of the Local History sub-committee, 14 June 2022

Present: Ian McInnes (chair), Duncan Bowie (host), Gavin Bowyer, Bernard Nurse, Brian Green, Steve Hicks, Kenneth Wolfe, Julia Atkins.

Apologies: Sharon O'Connor, Patrick Darby, David Natzler, Pat Reynolds

Julia Atkins was welcomed to her first meeting

1. Matters Arising. None were raised.

2. Sub-committee members: notification of interests None were notified.

3. Enquiries received. These included: East Dulwich street names; Park Hall Road, Constance Road workhouse; East Dulwich brigade of the Salvation Army; St John's and St Clement's centenary; Rosendale Hall; Turney Road special school.

4. Walks and Talks. Several walks and talks had been successfully completed since last meeting. Alternative locations for in-person talks were discussed. Agreed to continue with ZOOM talks in September, October and November. Possible future talks included: Burbage Road; Dulwich Village cottages; Georgian houses (IM); Decline of farming and growth of sports clubs; Anthony Highmore, legal writer and abolitionist (GB), more Dulwich radicals (DB), Dulwich churches (various?). Duncan suggested walks based on his Dulwich radicals book, subject to cartographic assistance. A walk based on stars of stage and screen was also suggested.

5. Journal articles and forthcoming publications. Brian provided an update. Ian had written an article on Lordship Lane to Sydenham Hill. Sharon had an article on Garden Row (behind the former Greyhound pub). Brian suggested an article on the Calton family who had bought the estate from the crown in 1534 before selling on to Edward Alleyn in 1605. Gavin was writing an article on the geology of Dulwich. Duncan referred to a recent article in socialist History journal on the Metropolitan Radical Federation, which included references to the Dulwich and Peckham Radical Club.

6. Members research/ outcomes of current research. Julia spoke on her research on Victorian /Edwardian housing in East Dulwich and the Pellatt Road Housing Action Area. Duncan referred to research on Irish and Indian nationalism in pre-WW1 Dulwich and also to a possible Who's Who in Dulwich on Havelock Ellis who lived in Holmdene Avenue.

7. Kingswood House. This was now leased to an immersive arts group for use as rehearsal space, following relocation of the library.

8. Court Rolls. Patrick Darby had now completed his work up to 1634 and Sharon would be preparing the material for posting on the website.

9. Information Boards. Ian displayed the board for Sunray Gardens, the original of which had been stolen. The council was not funding its replacement and alternative options for replacement, to be funded by the Dulwich Society, were discussed. Board for St Peter's church would be funded from

grant. Library foundation stone renovation was being grant funded. Ian to check supplies of burial ground leaflet [we have none left].

10. Bench for Sandy Alexander. Ian was dealing with this.

11. Terms of Reference/Mission Statement. Agreed draft following amendments:

First line. Replace by "We are volunteers researching and sharing Dulwich's rich local history"

First indent. Amend to "We write articles for the Society's publications, its website and for other publications."

Add at end: "we liaise with relevant archives" "we recommend appropriate historical projects for funding by the Society."

12. Any Other Business. The possibility of arranging exhibitions for future Dulwich Festivals was discussed.

A visit to the James Caird /Shackleton exhibition at Dulwich College was considered. Ian to pursue.

The issue of liaison with Dulwich Estates on local history initiatives was considered, Agreed Ian raise with Society chair, who sat on Estates consultation committee.

Gavin reported on local history leaflets he had prepared for the Dunstons Road street party. There was a discussion on the group contributing to future street parties and the possibility of obtaining a list from the council of organisers of Jubilee street parties.

Gavin also referred to the availability of local valuation data for 1910 (originally collected for Lloyd George's property tax).

13 Next meeting Dates:

13 September 2022

13 December 2022

14 March 2023

13 June 2023