Dulwich Society 556th Trustee Meeting

Monday 18th November 2024 at Bell House

Attendees:

President
Kenneth Wolfe

Officers
James Thompson – Chair
Sue Badman - Vice-Chair
Russell Lloyd – Treasurer
Heather Stubbs– Secretary

Activity Group Chairs
Laurie Johnston – Environment
Ian McInnes – Local History
Jeremy Prescott - Gardens
Peter Roseveare – Wildlife

Christine Brandon – Membership Secretary
Claire Richards - Journal Editor
Sharon O'Connor – Communications and Media Lead
Richard Wingfield – Development

1. Apologies

   Patsy Bramble – Licensing; Penny Stern – Planning & Architecture

2. Register of Interests

   No new declarations of interest were declared.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

   The Minutes of 16th September 2024 were approved for signature by JT.

   Action: HS to post the approved minutes of 16th September on the website.

4. Matters Arising

   Minute 4) **Action carried forward: PS and PR to consider the wildlife impact of the East Dulwich Sidings development.**

   Minute 4) **RL has liaised with Katharine St.John-Brooks and resolved the Garden Coach Trip account.**

5. DS Matters

a) Chair's Report

The Chair's Report was received.

The Chair said that Charter School is actively seeking grants to preserve the Striding Man statue.

b) Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair's report was received.

SB provided an overview of local issues including:

- Stocks Stone: Aquinna has agreed to varnish the Stocks Stone box.
- SB is liaising with DE regarding security for the Edward Alleyn statue.
- Issues to be discussed at the DE surgery on 2 December include the Grove Tavern, white posts and DE staffing levels.
- SB has attended DV Cuppa with a Copper and a police Walk and Talk event.
- Margy Newens has been approached about difficulties in navigating LBS's redeveloped website and is looking into this.

c) Streets for People - Phase 3

JT said all the trees at the Calton Avenue junction have been planted including two pines.

LJ said she was disappointed that a raised crossing recommended by Southwark Living Streets to slow cyclists in Calton Avenue had not been implemented. Other pedestrian safety issues were also raised. JT/SB said Southwark will be requested to undertake monitoring of cyclists.

SB asked whether events, including an official opening, were planned at the junction when the works are completed.

Action: PR to contact Joseph Arrowsmith to find out the reasons for choosing the pines. JT to raise issues of pedestrian safety and events at Calton Avenue junction at the meeting with LBS.

d) Streets for People – Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs)

JT reported that the statutory consultation on the limited Dulwich Village CPZ had now concluded and the CPZ would be implemented in the new year.

e) Hunts Slip Road Works

It was noted that signs for pickup/drop-off points for Dulwich College were not clear.

Action: SB/JT will raise at the forthcoming surgery with the Dulwich Estate.

f) West Norwood/West Dulwich traffic plans

It was agreed that there should be greater engagement between DS and West Dulwich.

The Environment Group was commended on a constructive letter to Lambeth about festivals in Brockwell Park and the impact on traffic and wildlife.

g) Follow-up to SGM/AGM

Since the last meeting, there have been some approaches by petitioners mainly to individual Trustees. A number of petitioners attended the Meet the Trustees event on 30th September. It was noted that all emails and approaches by the petitioners have been responded to and meetings have taken place.

A confidential matter was raised and discussed by the Trustees.

h) Development/Member Engagement

i) Survey

RW said there had been just under 100 responses to the survey which he considered an encouraging response for a survey of this type. He had circulated a summary of the results. There was very positive feedback regarding Local History talks and the Journal (which the majority of people would prefer to read in hard copy than online). In general, respondents wanted:

- More activities
- More social events
- Greater presence in East Dulwich
- More activities for young families.

Demographically our members are representative of Dulwich in terms of gender and religion, but there is a significant discrepancy in terms of age and ethnicity.

ii) Strategy Day and Agenda

This will be held in the near future and will consider the results of the survey in more detail.

iii) Meet the Trustee evenings

The Meet the Trustees events were targeted at new members at Bell House and East Dulwich members at the Lordship and were well-attended and enjoyable. A Meet the Trustees event in West Dulwich is under consideration.

i) Financial Review

Deferred to a future meeting.

j) Society Events

i. Local History Talks

A Local History talk on Alleyn Road had 69 attendees. Further talks are planned for the new year. It was noted that online talks attract a bigger audience.

ii. Garden events

JP said the October Fungus Walk had been excellent and identified 40 different types of fungus.

iii. Women and Politics

This is being organised for 4th March with a number of distinguished women politicians contributing. Trustees agreed a sum of £500 for marketing and £300 for drinks afterwards.

iv. Possible Meet the Explorers Event with Margaret Evison

An interactive event is planned which should appeal to younger members.

k) Membership Report

The Membership report was received.

CB reported that membership remains stable at c1300 members.

l) Editorial Committee/Journal

The Journal Editor's report was received.

CR said she has just signed off the Winter Journal for publication. She thanked LJ and the Environment Group for their articles and said she needs an East Dulwich resident to provide an East Dulwich perspective.

m) Policy Review

- Privacy Policy – deferred to next meeting.
- Risk Map and Risk Management Policy – these had been updated by a sub-group of JT, JP and HS and the revised Risk Map and Risk Management Policy were approved by Trustees.

Action: HS to post the revised Risk Management Policy on the website and circulate the revised Risk map to Trustees for internal use.

- Termination of Membership Procedure – this was due for review to ensure it is consistent with the new Rules. It was agreed that the trigger for the procedure of "multiple complaints" should be revised to "multiple upheld complaints".

Action: HS to amend the Termination of Membership Procedure accordingly and cross-reference with the Rules.

6. Communications and Media Report

The Communications and Media Report was received.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Reports were received.

The Treasurer said the Society has a balance of c £47k and expenditure this year has been low.

i) Review of Internal Controls

Action: RL/JP to review internal financial controls in the new year.

8. Consideration of Applications for Society Grants

The Grants List for YTD November 2024 was received.

Sydenham Hill and Dulwich Woods "Reunite the Woods" project has secured National Lottery Heritage Fund funding. The Society will be contributing £5,000 and seeking matched funding from members in the Spring Journal.

No bids were submitted by the Society for Southwark's CGS or Neighbourhoods funds.

A proposal from Felicity Sutherland, Head of Development at Dulwich Picture Gallery, requesting a grant of £5k from the Society for the Gallery's Open Art Project, was considered. It was noted the Gallery is close to achieving its target funding from a variety of sources including its own Friends. Felicity has indicated the sum could be payable in either 2024 or 2025 and if approved, the Society will be credited onsite. It was agreed that ideally the Society would be credited in the new children's area of the Gallery. The grant of £5,000 was unanimously approved for payment in 2024.

Action: HS to inform Dulwich Picture Gallery of our decision and enquire whether the Society's donation could be credited in or near the future children's area of the Gallery.

9. Wildlife/Trees Group arrangements

PR said that the Wildlife Group is very willing to incorporate Trees into the work of the Group but no member feels able to take this on as an area of expertise. External experts who have been approached are willing to provide consultancy but not to be a member of the Group. The position of trees expert for the Wildlife Group has been advertised in eNews without success to date.

Action: PR to prepare a piece for the Journal on the need for a tree expert. All Trustees to check their contact list for a possible tree expert.

10. Other Dulwich Issues and Points from Activity Group Reports

Reports were received from Planning & Architecture, Local History, Environment, Gardens, Wildlife and Licensing & Events.

Local History – IMcI emphasised that the Local History Group should be consulted on a potential children's history map of Dulwich which is being prepared.

Environment – LJ said a local primary school has bid for funding from Southwark's Biodiversity Fund to create a biodiversity corridor/green screen. A member of the

Environment Group is active in this project and may want a letter of support from the Society. This was unanimously approved.

11. Dulwich Estate

    JT will be standing down as one of the two DS representative's on the Advisory Committee of the Estate Scheme of Management after the next meeting, having competed his 4 year term. Richard Wingfield was proposed and seconded as his replacement to serve alongside Penny Stern, and said he was willing. RW was unanimously approved as a representative of the Dulwich Society on the DE SoM AC.

12. AOB

    None

13. Date of Next Meeting:

    Monday 20 January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Macandrew Room at Bell House.

The meeting ended at 10.05pm

Heather Stubbs, Secretary, **November 2024**

Signed: ***James Thompson*** **Date: 20 January 2025**

(James Thompson, Chair)

Appendix 1 Executive Committee - Register of Interests (as of 18th November 2024)

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; Lay member of Chelsea Deanery Synod; Teacher of English as a Second Language (Chelsea – part of All Souls Church Free English group); 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; Member/Attendee of Dulwich Hill Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panel

Ian McInnes – Son Tim McInnes is Chair of the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust.

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 Dulwich Park Friends.

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

Laurie Johnston - Volunteer Chair of Southwark Living Streets; Volunteer Secretary of London Living Streets, the national charity which campaigns for everyday walking and wheeling.

Richard Wingfield is Chair of Southwark Liberal Democrats.

Christine Brandon is vice-chair, publicity officer, events manager and website manager for The Arts Society Dulwich.

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