Dulwich Society 560th Trustee Meeting

Monday 14 July 2025 in the Lutyens Room, Bell House

Attendees:

Kenneth Wolfe - Honorary President

Officers
James Thompson – Chair (via Zoom)
Sue Badman - Vice Chair (chairing the meeting)
Jane Jones – Secretary
Russell Lloyd (joined via Zoom at 9.05pm)

Activity Group Chairs
Peter Roseveare – Wildlife & Trees
Penny Stern – Planning & Architecture (via Zoom)
Ian McInnes –Local History
Patsy Bramble – Licensing

Christine Brandon - Membership Secretary
Sharon O'Connor - Communications and Media
Richard Wingfield – Strategy & Development
Kimberly Mears – Community (joined the meeting at 8.15pm)

1. Apologies

   Laurie Johnston – Chair Environment
   Celia Randell – Chair Gardens (CCR)
   Claire Richards – Journal Editor (CR)

2. Welcome of new trustees

   SB welcomed JJ as the new Secretary and new trustees KM and CR (in absentia).

3. New declarations of interest

   No new interests were declared – see current Register of Interests attached.

4. Minutes of the AGM on 19 May 2025

   A minor amendment was made to §4.

   Action: JJ to post the amended draft AGM minutes of 19 May 2025 on the website.

5. Approval of the minutes of the trustee meeting on 12 May 2025 and matters arising

   The minutes, as circulated, were approved.
   Action: JJ to post approved minutes of 12 May 2025 on the website.

Matters arising:

§ 4 The approved minutes of 17 March 2025 are on the website.

§ 5.7.i) See item 8 below.

§ 6.a. JT has posted the new AGM voting procedures on the website

§ 6.b.ii) SB reported that 147 Half Moon Lane was now open as a convenience store, whose owner lives locally. Cllr Newens intends to request the removal of vape advertising due to its proximity to schools.

§ 6.c.ii) and iii) Actions relating to the AGM arrangements had been completed.

§ 6.d) See item 9 below.

§ 6.f) CB has found a new Zone Coordinator to replace JJ. Updating of the Directory is in progress.

§ 12 The Local History Group is working on the Green Plaque and Local History Day proposals.

6. Chair's report

The Chair's Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and the points covered are dealt with under the respective items below.

7. Vice-Chair's report

a) SB has sent a draft Asset Report to the Treasurer, officers and the LH group. SB has to arrange a date for the meeting with the DE on the Edward Alleyn statue security.

b) SB and JT attended an Estate surgery meeting on 23 June focussing on non-SOM issues. The next meeting will be in early autumn. SOM matters should be referred to PS and RW for discussion at the Advisory Committee (see item 15 below). Between surgeries, issues are raised by email with Adrian Brace and Simone Crofton.

c) SB reported back from Southwark Council's first Dulwich Neighbourhood Meeting (formerly the Community Council Meeting) held on 8 July at Kingswood House, which she had attended with RW and KM. The aim was an interactive discussion to engage with residents about their local priorities for input into the 2030 Dulwich Community Plan. Everyone on the mailing list will receive a survey. The Neighbourhood Champion for both Dulwich wards is Cllr Andy Simmons. An application for funding for the maintenance of the white posts and chains will be made to the Cleaner, Greener, Safer fund in the autumn.

Action: SB to pursue funding for maintenance of white posts and chains once details are published.

d) Safer Neighbourhood Dulwich Village Panel: DS continues to be represented at the Cuppa with a Coppa events. The SNP now has five officers and the next meeting is on 22 July. The new Met Engage initiative (https://www.metengage.co.uk) was launched in June. The aim is to expand the reach of the neighbourhood teams directly to residents. Anyone can register and

receive tailored updates on local policing and crime issues. Ward objectives remain robbery and theft, vehicle crime and violence against women and girls. Herne Hill and Village residential roads are relative hotspots for phone snatching and robbery.

e) An approach has been made by the Friends of Dulwich Square with a view to DS acting as sponsor for occasional events. Further discussions will be held.

f) Brockwell Park Events: the 2025 festivals went ahead despite the campaign group obtaining a judgment against Lambeth about the planning process. The traffic and parking arrangements in Southwark roads during Brockwell Live were largely successful with fewer complaints than previous years. The campaign group has requested a second judicial review and fundraising is under way. Some DS trustees had attended the Brockwell Live events.

g) Lambeth has been forced to abandon the West Dulwich LTN following judicial action.

h) Lambeth has received funding from TfL Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for improvements to Croxted Rd and the junction with Turney Rd in particular.

i) Oakfield Prep is becoming part of the Alleyn's School group as of September 2025 and will be known as Alleyn's Oakfield.

j) Other events attended by SB and JT: various Dulwich Festival events; Quilters at Bell House; Safe Routes to School meeting; Burbage Rd Residents' Association AGM; planning hearing for Dulwich Sports Club (see §14 below).

8. Treasurer's report

RL had circulated a review of internal controls produced by Jeremy Prescott, to comply with the Charity Commission's checklist. All actions identified were in process or completed.
Trustees were requested to keep RL informed of any new deposits into the accounts.

Grants List: There were no updates to the list dated 25 May 2025. SO'C pointed out that proceeds from the Local History talks were sent straight to the beneficiaries by Bell House and so did not appear in the DS accounts. These sums should be reported in the Annual Return and recorded in the Grants List.

Action: JJ to include these sums in the Charity Commission Annual Return.

9. Development & Strategy

RW outlined the agreed development objectives for the benefit of the new trustees. These include greater inclusion of East and West Dulwich, more social events along the lines of "Dulwich Socials", fostering community including reaching different age groups, and greater social media presence. RW will be meeting with a new contact who might be able to assist with the strategy for social media presence. Some actions identified would be allocated to two or three trustees and others would involve all trustees, with progress reports presented at each meeting.
JT commented that in recent years meetings had been dominated by discussion of the new rules and the focus should now return to the Society's charitable activities. He was in favour of shorter meetings with targeted discussions on, for example, recruitment to

cover knowledge gaps, and overall terms of reference. He wished more attention to be given to the individual Groups' activities and the strategic objectives at each meeting, beyond the current brief reports.

Action: PR to prepare a detailed account of the activities of the Wildlife and Trees Group for the next trustee meeting.

Action: JJ and CB to report on West Dulwich initiatives at the next meeting.

10. Membership

Now that the new Constitution allows communication with members by electronic means, CB and JT have been working on integrating membership data with Mailchimp. This will enable it to be used for specific targeted emails as well as for the eNews. Getting more members onto the email system is crucial but there has been a low response to general requests for email addresses. Likewise, requests to the 845 members still paying by standing order to convert to direct debit has had little success. KM suggested that names could be divided up between trustees for a more personal approach. Around 156 copies of the DS Journal are posted and these recipients have been asked for a donation to cover the cost of postage. New photos featuring East and West Dulwich and not only the Village are needed for the membership leaflet.

Action: CB and JT to continue work on the membership list.
Action: JJ to ask Ian Jones to take photos for the membership leaflet.

11. Society events

KM reported she had had a conversation with Helen Poyton, Head of Dulwich Village Infants School, to gain insight into how more families could be attracted to the DS via targeted events. She had also talked to some trustees to tap into their knowledge and local experience for ideas on future initiatives (see §9 above).

Action: KM to continue conversations with trustees.

12. Journal

The deadline for copy for the next issue is 25th July.

13. Communications & Media report

SO'C reported that DS events are publicised in the eNews, on the DS website and the noticeboard outside the Crown & Greyhound, on Bluesky and the East Dulwich Forum, and in Southwark Life and Around Dulwich. Press releases are also sent to local and London publications. There is a Local News section on the DS website that is regularly updated. The eNews receives very good feedback and has a high 'open' rate (80%); increasing the coverage of members is part of the strategy objectives (see §10).
Social media: The Bluesky following is building slowly and now stands at 196 for the Society in general, and 843 for the Local History account. The DS no longer has Twitter/X accounts.

14. Group reports

- Licensing:
  James Allen's Girls' School: PB has requested the Application and Plan, neither of which has been published. The deadline for representations is 31st July.

  Londis has made a licence application for a supermarket at the north end of

Melbourne Grove, East Dulwich, in a small group of commercial units. PB noted the proposed long hours of business (6am to 1am, 24/7) including the sale of alcohol. This exceeded Southwark Council's recommendation of a closing time of 11pm for the sale of alcohol in residential areas. The application also fails to address the prevention of harm to children, e.g. no mention of an age verification policy, of importance in view of the premises' proximity to Charter School East Dulwich. The trustees unanimously agreed that PB should submit a representation opposing the application on behalf of the Society.

Action: PB to submit a representation against the Application by 23 July.

- Planning & Architecture:
  PS provided a list of licence applications (DE-SOM) and planning applications in the area. On the Dulwich Sports Club application, JT noted that he had made a personal objection to the late floodlight finishing time. SB reported that following the planning hearing, permission had been granted for a 10pm cut-off time. The P&A report also provided information on the Mayor of London's "Towards a New London Plan"

- Local History:
  LH online talks will resume in September, starting with "Dulwich Hamlet Football Club, the early years." IMcI and SO'C provided a list of enquiries dealt with, walks organised for the Dulwich Festival and planned Journal articles. A donation of slides from the 1,000-year celebration of Dulwich in 1967 had been received and would need to be scanned.

15. Dulwich Estate

The Advisory Committee for SOM independent members comprised PS and RW for the DS, Jane Lyons for the Village and Martyn Deane representing Peckarmans Wood residents' association. The latter member has exceeded their term of four years, and this matter will be raised with the SOM with a view to finding a replacement from another residents' association. The DE has recently reduced the number of meetings of the Advisory Committee from three per annum to two (in March and July), thus removing the chance for input on the setting of the annual management charge, and reducing scrutiny and transparency. It was felt that awareness should be raised of this erosion of the accountability mechanism.

Action: PS to draft a letter to DE trustees on the reduction of meetings.
Action: SO'C to provide a list of eligible residents' associations in the area to identify potential candidates to replace the fourth member.

16. A.O.B.

SB commented that the organisation of the AGM had resulted in a successful meeting and thanked everyone who had contributed.
The possible date of 27 April 2026 was identified for the next AGM.

Action: JJ to check this date with absent trustees and enquire about availability of the Crown & Greyhound.

Dates of Next Meetings:

Monday 15 September at 7.30pm. Macandrew Room, Bell House

Monday 17 November at 7.30pm. Macandrew Room, Bell House

Monday 19 January 2026 (tbc)

Monday 16 March 2026 (tbc)

The meeting ended at 9.43pm

Jane Jones, Secretary **July 2025**

Signed: ***James Thompson*** **Date: 15 September 2025**

(James Thompson, Chair)

Appendix 1 Trustee Register of Interests (as of 14 July 2025)

Kenneth Wolfe (Honorary President) – Member of the Friends of Dulwich Square

James Thompson (Chair) - 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) –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

Claire Richards - Member of Lambeth Wind Orchestra and a committee member of Dulwich Symphony Orchestra; Secretary of the Herne Hill Music Festival.

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 - Chair of Southwark Liberal Democrats; Dulwich Society nominated member of the Advisory Committee of the Scheme of Management of The Dulwich Estate

For Information

The Dulwich Society is a member of the London Forum and the Aviation Environment Forum. The Wildlife/Trees Group has membership of The Woodland Trust and Dulwich Park Friends.