

Dulwich Society Executive 529th Meeting Monday 11th May 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom videoconference

Attendees:

Colin Niven - President
Ian McInnes – Chairman
Kenneth Wolfe – Vice-Chairman
Sue Badman – Secretary
Russell Lloyd – Treasurer
Brian Green – Journal Editor
Sub-Committee Chairs:
David Beamish – Trees
Patsy Bramble – Licensing
Alastair Hanton – Travel and Environment
Bernard Nurse – Local History
Jeremy Prescott – Gardens
David Roberts – Planning and Architecture

Apologies: Diana McInnes (Membership Secretary),
Angela Wilkes (Wildlife Sub-Committee Chair)
Adrian Hill

Declarations of Interest

See Appendix 1. No change.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: The Minutes were agreed and will be signed in due course.

Matters Arising not covered elsewhere: None

DS Matters

- a) AGM arrangements – Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic and will be rearranged depending on emergence from lockdown. If necessary, it will be held virtually. One suggestion from BG was to hold the AGM in October with a drinks party afterwards. It was agreed that nothing could be planned till there was a clearer way ahead.
- b) Future events – for the same reasons as a) above, nothing can be planned. BG's talk on VE Day had been well-received.
- c) Society PR and Marketing – no action yet.
- d) Restructuring of the Travel and Environment Sub-Committee - AIH and IMCI have agreed the way forward:
 - Several longstanding sub-committee members will be thanked for their service and asked to stand down to make way for a more representative group of younger and diverse members. Action: IMCI
 - AIH will stand down as Chair of the Sub-Committee with immediate effect and will stay on the sub-committee as a member for about three months after which he will step away from the committee. Action: AIH
 - The Sub-Committee has agreed to appoint Harry Winter (HW) as its Chair.

- Recruitment of new members representing a wider set of interests is under way, and we will advertise for new members in the enewsletter. AH suggested we should have East Dulwich representatives given the Society's wider geographic reach following the merger with the East Dulwich Society. AH highlighted that one of the proposed members was an East Dulwich resident. IMCl stressed he would like to interview candidates first before they are proposed for sub-committee membership. Action: HW, IMCl
 - Councillors are committee guests not members and we should look to invite a councillor representative from each of the Dulwich wards including Dulwich Village, Dulwich Wood and Goose Green. Action: HW, IMCl
 - Emphasis is on a forward-looking sub-committee with a diverse and updated remit.
 - (Post-Meeting Note: Pamela Monblat is standing down as the Sub-Committee Secretary and a new secretary will be appointed. Action: HW)
- e) Covid-19 impacts – the Dulwich Village ward councillors have started a regular series of Zoom videoconferences with RA Chairs. The Dulwich Society has been invited to attend. Initially the meetings covered community and council help for residents and roads quickly put together lists of vulnerable neighbours and a system of road communications. The emphasis now is on issues arising from the lockdown such as traffic and cycling. The meetings will continue for the next few months.

Treasurer's Report

RL presented the draft final accounts for FY2019 and budget and accounts (to date) for FY2020.

- RL reported that the Nat West Account was closed on 10 March 2020 and the balance transferred to the Barclays account.
- Online banking is working well.
- After £1500 provision for the proposed local history listening post, the remaining Mary Boast legacy fund totals £5,102.32.
- The 2019 Accounts show a net income of £4375 and a -£3460 deficiency with net assets of £45k including £41k cash. We awarded over £10k grants as per our grant and reserves policy. JP, SB and IMCl have reviewed and commented on the 2019 accounts and they are now ready to send to the auditor for approval. After signature they will be posted to the Society website.
- The bank summary shows nearly £54k in our accounts. RL asked that those depositing money into the account should provide identifying payment detail.
- BG said he had offered free advertising in two Journal editions (June and September) to our regular advertisers. Local businesses are suffering and the offer will garner goodwill. The costs will be in the region of £2540 for 2020. The Committee agreed with this.
- JP also reported that he would waive advertising income in the "Dulwich Open Gardens" booklet totalling around £2500. Also agreed by the Committee.

Full details in RL's Executive Report.

Licensing and events

PB reported on Peachy Goat. PG opened in early 2020 with an A3 restaurant and café use approved under planning permission which had a condition to restrict use to 07:00-23.00 daily. PG issued a fresh application in March to vary the licence until 03:00 daily. The application was withdrawn due to irregularities and a fresh application has been submitted for a 00.30am close (S-Th) and a 01:30am close on Fri and Sat.

Southwark's suggested closing times for Herne Hill are earlier than those sought by the owner who says that he wants the hours to match those of the Half Moon pub. The pub also does not have an outdoor music licence which PG are seeking. There is every indication that the PG owners want to turn PG into a vertical late-night drinking establishment without need for waiter service.

PB recommends the Society should oppose the application and request that PG stick to the present hours put forward by the Estate to protect the amenities of adjacent residents. The Committee agreed with PB's recommendation. Action: PB

PB reported back on the Pub in the Park licence. The applicant has lodged an appeal and it has been agreed with the Magistrates Court that the licence will be reheard in committee due to closure of the court for Covid-19 reasons. The only two matters that the committee will decide upon are the perpetuity of the licence and the operating hours of the Sunday event (22.45 not 19.30). PB will attend the hearing on 20 May and make representations.

Full details in PB's Executive report.

Dulwich Estate

The Estate staff are working online and no surgeries are being held at present.

DR reported that the P&A sub-committee were having virtual Scheme of Management meetings with the SOM office who were sending through eplans for review.

As reported at the last meeting, the Society will continue to attend the Advisory Group but will focus on getting more transparency and precision. Only one trustee attended the last Advisory Group in March, the new Chair, Andreas Kottering. He seems minded to push the CEO to crack on with resolving all the minor issues, which can only be a positive enabling us to focus on major concerns.

The SOM office will need our list of questions by 25 May and will issue the agenda and financial figures a week in advance to enable RL and JP to review the figures. IMCI will chase Nina regarding the virtual meeting details.

BG reported on the Estate's traders:

- The Estate had written a letter to traders offering monthly rent payments.
- The letter was helpful rather than pressurising; no-one is under threat.
- The Estate wanted to ensure traders had applied to the government support schemes.
- Small traders had received a £25k grant from the government. It was noted that several shops were using the opportunity to decorate their shop frontages.
- BG is unsure how many traders had paid the rent due.
- So far there has been no mention of rent relief from the Estate.
- Income is down due to the closure and traders were attempting to make it up through delivery schemes.
- It would not benefit the Estate's image or their beneficiaries if shops are shuttered.
- Several leases are up for renewal this year. BG commented that it would not be helpful to be faced with a 10-year lease with a 5-year review point and the preference is for a 5-year lease with no rent reviews.
- In addition to the Covid-19 threat, there are also other units unlet or closing such as the Wine Parlour (still unlet) and Café Provencal in Herne Hill which closed at the end of its lease.

Society Grants

2019 Grants The final grant sheet is being finalised with RL.

2020 Grants See FY2020 Grant sheet (attached)

Consultations and Planning

- a. Southwark Council intends to hold virtual planning committee meetings where it can, and SB attended the first committee meeting to assess how it went. It ran well and further virtual planning meetings will be scheduled. Planning applications are being given extra consultation time because of the Covid-19 emergency but dates on the register will remain unchanged. The Society as do all civic societies need to monitor whether planning decisions are being delegated instead of heard in committee.
- b. CIL projects. Dulwich Village councillors are seeking ideas for projects to be funded by CIL money up to £137k. There is a Commonplace map on which to pitch ideas. The Society has submitted a request for CIL money to be used to reduce traffic and air pollution. There are also some Society tree project bids.
- c. Lydenhurst – it is believed that planning permission has been granted by Southwark subject to an S106 agreement and a Construction Management Plan. There are two residents actively monitoring this application (one being Duncan Pratt) and DR is following up on the conditions.
- d. 24 Dulwich Village – demolition/rebuild located near to Infant School and Zebra Crossing heavily utilised by children. Still under consultation.

Travel and Environment

- a. Our Healthy Streets. Phase 3 consultation has closed, and the more than 2000 responses are being analysed by council officers. The results and further consultation are due in the autumn. TfL are still due to fund the project.
- b. Covid-19 emergency measures. In the meantime, Southwark and Lambeth councils are considering installing temporary measures to widen pavements, provide cycling lanes and assist social distancing. Rye Lane and Lordship Lane are being considered as is the stretch of pavement by the food shops on Dulwich Village. The carriageways in Lambeth are being narrowed to provide more pavement space at Herne Hill. Extra government funding is being made available for these initiatives.
- c. Area B residents – have raised concerns about the closing of Dulwich Village junction. They are opposed to the permanent closure of the junction as proposed in OHS and would like to see a more flexible timed solution to deal principally with school traffic. The councillors are holding a videoconference with the residents to discuss.
- d. CGS – The Society have been awarded CGS money for air pollution monitors and the project is in progress. Dulwich College already have monitors in place.
- e. Melbourne Grove (with Elsie Road and Derwent Grove) – 75 residents of these roads have signed a petition to close Melbourne Grove, and have asked the Dulwich Society to sign the petition. It was felt by a margin of 10-2 that the committee would not sign the petition. It is recognised that it is a difficult section of road to negotiate but there were concerns about the lack of full consultation and the unknown impact on neighbouring roads. Other committee members felt that it would be acceptable to close the road as a short-term measure and perhaps encourage drivers to use the alternative route down Grove Vale/Lordship Lane/East Dulwich Grove.

Other Dulwich Issues and Any Other Business

- a. McCulloch's – no action except a request to the developers to adjust the hoardings to allow more pavement space.
- b. Tollgate – Southwark Cyclists want the tollgate closed again as they are concerned about motorists speeding and endangering cyclists and pedestrians. Several committee members referred to speeding cyclists down College Road. The Estate intend to close the tollgate shortly.
- c. DR requested an update on electric charging points – there are some faster chargers in place on several roads and residents can request a lamppost charging point in their road via the Southwark website.

Date of next meeting – 13 July 2020, 7.30pm – venue or Zoom meeting to be confirmed. (Post-Meeting note – now rescheduled to 15 July 2020, 7pm)

Sue Badman, Secretary – The Dulwich Society

2020 Meetings – 14 Sept, 9 Nov 2020, currently 7.30pm, St Barnabas Centre, Calton Avenue

2020 AGM – to be rescheduled.

Appendix 1

Executive Committee - Declarations of Interest as at 11 May 2020

Ian McInnes – Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery (Chairman); Dulwich Village and Dulwich Wood Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panels (Member + Deputy Chair of DV SNP). Son Tim McInnes is Chair of the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust.

Diana McInnes - Son Tim McInnes is Chair of the Herne Hill Velodrome Trust.

Sue Badman - Dulwich Events Partnership (DS rep), Safe Routes to School Group (Attendee)

David Roberts – Volunteer at the Village Orchard in Dulwich Village.

David Beamish – Parish of St Barnabas, Dulwich (Deputy Churchwarden); Dulwich Deanery Synod (Hon. Secretary); Southwark Diocesan Synod (Member); Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery (Committee Member); Member of the Southwark Diocesan Council of Trustees and of its Audit and Risk Committee; Volunteer at Dulwich Picture Gallery; Dulwich & District U3A Committee Member; Volunteer at Dulwich Village Infants School.

Alastair Hanton - Southwark Living Streets (Member); Dulwich and West Norwood Climate Change Coalition (Member). Son Angus Hanton is a Trustee of Bell House.

Adrian Hill – Camberwell & District Allotment Society; Stradella and Springfield Residents' Association (Committee Member); Friends of Crystal Palace Subway (DS rep); Abbeyfield Dulwich Society Ltd (Trustee and Executive Committee Member).