



Minutes of LGVS Committee Meeting Tuesday 7 November 2021

Present:

David Whittaker (Chair) (DaveW)
James Bowdidge (Deputy Chair) (JamesB)
David Brimlow (Treasurer) (DavidB)
Lyn Dollimore (LynD)
Helen Fuller (HelenF)
Josie Gamble (Fete Committee Chair) (JosieG)
Mark Gamble (MarkG)
Nicci Levy (NicciL)
Jeremy Stirling (JeremyS)
Nick Trainor (NickT)
Lawrence Dollimore (LawrenceD) - Minutes

Apologies:

Lynn Trainor, Julius Drake-Brookman, Harry Harrison, Emma Howden

Venue: Zoom meeting

Declarations of interest

For discussion related to school funding, Mark Gamble and Lynn Trainor have declared in previous Minutes they are school governors.

AGENDA

1. Actions from previous meeting

Actions had either been dealt with prior to the meeting or are covered later in the Minutes

2. Gatwick expansion (JeremyS)

- A major public meeting (at Penshurst) on this issue followed our Committee meeting and was attended by JeremyS and JamesB. A letter of objection on behalf of LGVS had been sent to the main parties (and published on our website)
 - Because the issue was developing so fast on the day of our meeting, it has been decided to publish here the outcome from the Penshurst meeting (the issues and history we know already):
 - The speakers urged as many people as possible to write to MPs and to respond to the consultation process.
 - **Langton Green actions** (Jeremy's recommendations):
 - urgently produce and distribute via email and social media, info for residents, with MP email contact details
 - Consultation contact details to be made available, as well as key bullet points of our objections to LGW growth plans, PLUS encouragement to act pre 01.12.21.
 - Tom Tugendhat's opinion:

- Mail campaigns make noise - enough noise and it will be listened to. So, let's make noise. He said there is a pro-aviation lobby at Govt level. It is not helpful **BUT** their case is weak (no proven national need, new Global warming targets, Gatwick access issues, poor financial benefits case.
- His overall recommendation - **we all must make a noise**

3. Xmas 2021 plans

- **Church and Xmas tree events** – all is in hand – tree ordered (and foc) and delivery (3 Dec) and erection planned, blessing at 5pm, tents being organised, and also mince pies, cakes etc. **Publicity needed, to make all aware**
- **Light-up Langton** – all in hand – publicity being done by Nicci, as well as the donation of prizes
- **Charity donation** – this year it will be to the TW 2021 Teddy Mayor's Toy Appeal

4. Financial planning (DavidB)

- David has issued a draft spreadsheet listing our current cash balance (£22,600 on 5/11/21), together with possible expenditure up to the end of 2021, and potential incomes and expenditures for 2022
- **ACTION – All Committee members** are asked to send David any missing potential expenditures for 2022, in particular for major items such as new gazebos/tents, maintenance of LGVS-owned equipment and the like (**THIS WILL BE A MAIN AGENDA ITEM FOR OUR NEXT MEETING**)

5. Greenleaf update (JamesB)

- James again provided a comprehensive pre-statement. This subject is moving at such speed that it is best to follow James's regular emailed status reports
- One point of special importance is the need for further volunteers – **PLEASE LET JAMES KNOW YOUR AVAILABILITY**
- James will issue a work rota
- The distribution of trees to every house in LG will be a major undertaking, for which volunteers will again be required (**ACTION: All**)

6. Proposal to become a registered charity and change our name (MarkG)

- Mark is producing a revised Constitution for the eventuality of us becoming a registered charity
- An essential precursor is the change of name from the LG Village Society to the LG Village Trust – this needs the endorsement of the community, which will require either an EGM or waiting for the next AGM
- Becoming a charity is expected to make it easier to raise money and it is hoped that donations will be able to benefit from gift aid
- A charity requires trustees, and it is foreseen that such Trustees will be members of the LGV Trust Committee
- The Committee wants this matter to proceed without undue delay and so the outline plan is:
 - Arrange an EGM to:
 - agree the proposal to become a charity,
 - to change our name from LGVS to LG Village Trust (and Committee),
 - to make all villagers automatically members of LGVT, and

- to encourage villagers to make an annual donation towards the Trust
 - Run a pre-EGM campaign explaining the benefits of the name change and becoming a charity
 - To complete the revision of the proposed new Constitution
- The timing for the EGM would be during Jan/Feb (the AGM is usually in March)
- **ACTION: Mark** to produce a timeline and then **Lawrence** will book the EGM venue

7. Road Safety (DaveW)

- The current focus of SPC is Groombridge Hill
- Dave continues to work with SPC and local influencers (including Council candidates) to maintain our push for safer roads

8. Broadband (NickT)

- Speldhurst may already be quite advanced in getting fibre-to-the-property (FTTP), and so benefitting from far better broadband speeds than we in LG (yet the BT Exchange supplying Speldhurst is located in LG)
- We need to know the level of interest in LG for high-speed broadband and start a similar process to that of Speldhurst
- **ACTION: NickT** to try to contact one of the Speldhurst organisers to learn their process

AOB

- **Platinum Jubilee in June 2022** – JosieG proposed a “Royal” dog show and cream tea garden party on The Green. All much liked the proposal
- **Music in LG** – JamesB said the recent piano recital by Elena Silvena had been excellent, and plans for the future are now underway
- **Mentoring** – certain procedures have to be followed for dealing with young people, and are being implemented
- **Memorial benches for Dr & Mrs Hoare** – a location on The Green is now being discussed with the owners and reply awaited
- **Welcome pack** – next meeting (**ACTION: LynnT**)
- **Event calendar for 2022** – DaveW requested all to submit their proposed events for 2022 (**ACTION: ALL** to send to **Lawrence** before next meeting)

Next meeting – 7.30pm Thurs 2 December (probably Church Hall - to be confirmed).

Regular meeting dates for 2022 – 7.30pm, second Monday each month – Church Hall (Probably Church Hall – to be confirmed) – **PLEASE PUT DATES IN DIARIES**