



## **Langton Green Village Society**

### **Committee Meeting**

**Monday 9th May 2022 7:15pm**

**Venue:**

Grace Space, All Saints Church

**Present:**

David Whittaker - Chair  
Josie Gamble (Fete Committee Chairperson) (JG)  
Mark Gamble (MG)  
Harry Harrison (HH)  
Lawrence Dollimore (LD)  
Lyn Dollimore (LyD)  
Lynn Trainor (LT)  
Nick Trainor (NT)  
Emma Stevens (ES) - taking minutes

**Apologies:**

James Bowdidge (Deputy Chairperson) (JB)  
Nicci Levy (NL)  
Helen Fuller Membership Secretary (HF)  
Jeremy Stirling (JS)  
David Brimlow (Treasurer) DB

**Note:** When Village Society members have been mentioned within the committee meeting they have been referred to by initials and not their names in these minutes.

**Declarations of interest**

None noted.

**AGENDA**

**1. Minutes of previous meeting and actions**

LD - reported on the bins - he had prior to the meeting sent out a detailed list of bin locations. Various discussion points followed. The Rural Society bought 3 bins and are therefore for us to maintain. DW suggested we subcontract in a similar way to the benches for bin maintenance, and potentially utilise the handyman that works with SPC.

*ACTION - LD to draft letter from DW to SPC and speak to EL to see if the SPC Groundsperson could maintain our bins (and possibly benches).*

*ACTION – DW to speak to NL about identifying a maintenance person.*

## **2. Charity application update**

MG explained that the application is in and has been for 2 weeks. He has suggested that this process could take up to 8 weeks and he will report as soon as he can.

## **3. Events**

- **AGM** DW advised that constitutionally we need to have an AGM and felt we should do this soon keeping in mind

1. it is low key - simple/factual as we have already had the EGM
2. it is an opportunity to reiterate 'this is what we do/this is who we are'

*ACTION - DW to speak to NL to arrange a date*

### **- Music in Langton 'Spring Serenade' Ukraine fundraiser – LT to report**

LT felt the evening was a real success, approximately 160 attended and a total of £3500 raised. In all the evening was well supported but the clear up was lacking in volunteers and needs thinking about for future events so that it doesn't come down to one or two people. LD mentioned that the church was very cold. Unfortunately to improve the acoustics the heating had to be off. NT suggested we look further at the marketing, so people know exactly what they are getting for each event. i.e. professional v amateur. The toilets in Grace Space were also an issue as the queues were very long and held up the second half.

*ACTION - LT to meet with NL and JB*

### **- Cricket match – DW to report**

100 to 120 people watching a really great event. HH reported the beer ran out! It was a super family event and DW advised potential for 20/20 cricket on a Thursday evening. LGCC has 12 games throughout the season and HH suggested we advertise and support.

- **Rude Mechanicals** – Ticket sales are down and we have been asked to ramp up the publicity and some enthusiasm for the show taking place on 1 June at the school. JB emailed and requested we all advertise and promote as take up slow. HH suggested that people might be waiting to see if the weather is good before buying tickets.

*ACTION – all to advertise and spread the word*

- **QPJ Street Parties** – JB and NL will coordinate distribution of the party packs week commencing 16 May 2022.

**- Fete – JG to report**

1. new marquees arrived and JG, MG and HH did a trial run before the meeting. Super easy to erect - and take down. The cost for the small one was £1400 and £1800 for the larger. Perhaps we should consider disposing of all our old marquees and buying more new ones and hiring them out to cover the costs. DW suggested we invest after the fete - ES suggested we sell the current marquees after the fete by advertising prior to and having a 'for sale' label on them so people can buy, take down and take away on the day.

2. Volunteers needed for all aspects of the fete. Door to door collections in June and then set up, on the day and day and clear up. ES suggested to JG that using the Covid neighbourhood network would be a good idea. ES will meet with JG to move this forward.

3. Decision to not have a fete programme, to save on paper, time, and unnecessary wastage. The idea that a sample flyer advertising the fete with arena events and timings on will be enough and then we ask local business to donate directly to the fete to advertise by sponsoring a stall.

4. Where will the money we raise go? Ukraine? Discussions regarding this focused on having a clear idea of how and where the money is spent might encourage volunteers to come forward but also general support for the event. NT suggested we consider moving to every other year for the fete, JG advised volunteers and support was essential as it is a huge thing to organise.

*ACTION - all of us to support, and encourage volunteers*

**4. Road Safety – DW to report**

DW advised that SPC has disappointingly not yet engaged with Kent Highways, since he presented Langton proposals in January 2022. SPC Clerk has advised Kent Highways initial meeting to take place before end June 2022.

**5. Financial Position**

DB will report fully at the next meeting.

MG advised he had been looking at the way we are banking and will give this further consideration with DB.

**6. Greenleaf / Op Cherry Blossom – JB to send in report re QPJ plaque and caring for the trees on The Green**

The Queen's Jubilee Cherry Trees – now able to water, further compliments from Green residents

*ACTION - JB to source commemorative plaque*

## **7. Gatwick**

Deferred to a future date.

## **8. Website update, update – NT to report**

*LD and NT to lead on this. Some discussion around waiting to get charitable status confirmed but NT felt we should push on get the basics preparatory work done and add logo and prettiness in due course.*

*ACTION - NT and LD to meet*

## **9. Equipment status – JS and MG to report**

See previous discussion regarding marquees.

## **10. AOB**

a. Benches - DW emphasised a date is required for installation of the bench paid for by the Hoare family.

*ACTION - HH and MG to sort before the next meeting*

b. summer beautification: hanging baskets / litter - As per previous discussion re litter bins. The hanging baskets are up and glorious - volunteers in place to water them.

c. Student sponsorships / bursaries - LyD advised no more for the moment. George de Carle requested £250 to use for a trip in July 2023. Agreed we would pledge this amount and then we have money available for future requests.

*ACTION - NL to republish information on social media re the offering to students to contact us for sponsorship*

d. THRIVE - HH and LT explain a little about the new THRIVE project and how it will be launched. HH advised he and a team of supporters of this new project would be doing a walk to raise money - he asked us to support, share and get involved.

e. DW brought Emma Quig to the meeting to learn more about engagement with the Village Society.

f. DW advised he is stepping down as chair but intends to stay on the committee. He advised that work and family commitments were just too huge and so will propose JB takes over as chair at the AGM

**Next Meeting:** Monday 13th June at 6pm prior to the AGM.