



**Langton Green Village Society
Committee Meeting
Monday 15 May 7:30pm**

Venue: Grace Space, All Saints Church

Present: James Bowdidge (JB) Chair, Dave Whittaker (DW) Vice Chair, Treasurer and minute-taker, Lynn Trainor (LT), Nick Trainor (NT), Nick Trainor (NT), Lyn Dollimore (LyD), Lawrence Dollimore (LD), Jeremy Stirling (JS)

Apologies: Nicci Levy Secretary (NL), Helen Fuller Membership Secretary (HF), Josie Gamble (JG), Harry Harrison (HH), Emma Stevens (ES), Mark Gamble (MG)

Guest: Emma Howden (EH), Jams Bull, Hugo Whittaker

Declarations of interest: None to add to those declarations made at the previous meeting.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of previous meeting and actions - The minutes were agreed and it was noted that any outstanding actions would be discussed under the agenda.

2. 'Protect Our Planet (POP)' - Pitch from James Bull & Hugo Whittaker on behalf of Langton Green Primary School - for sponsorship

- James and Hugo explained the POP initiative - to walk / run / cycle the equivalent distance Langton Green to North Pole (2,500 miles) as a school community - as well as all pupils invited to walk / cycle to school all week. POP day on 21 June.
- Request for sponsorship and supply of marquee if required. Agreed fete committee could supply cups for refreshments if required.
- After presentation, James Bull & Hugo left the meeting and Committee discussed appropriate charitable donation approach.
- Agreed this is a worthy cause, as it involves the whole school community (including parents) - c.420 pupils + staff + parents. Agreed to donate £250.
- Proposed protocol going forward is to ringfence £500 per year for donations (£250 for charitable causes, £250 for individual bursaries). Each request will be assessed on a case-by-case basis but with a particular focus on the request benefitting many / community overall, rather than individual.
- Actions: DW to arrange £250 payment to 'Just Giving' and to liaise with James Bull & Hugo for marquee / cup supply.

3. Langton Pavilion Café - Extensive discussion with Emma Howden regarding ongoing situation as the Pavilion Cafe seeks to retain its license to continue trading in what the Village Society sees as one, if not the, most important community facilities in the village. Agreed LGVS would write a statement confirming support of Emma and the ongoing operation of the Cafe, to share with Speldhurst Parish Council and Langton Green Community Sports Association, ahead of further discussions scheduled for 19th May.

4. Charity re-application - No progress - JB to review and opine on next steps ahead of next meeting.

5. Finances - DW updated that bank balance continues around the £30,000 mark with increase in activity to support upcoming Village Party on 8 July (partnering with TW Fringe Festival). £5,000 payment made to Fringe to pay for marquee hire and setup. £5,000 received for sale of old marquees. £1,000 agreed to receive from Speldhurst Parish Council as a grant to fund toilet and other amenities for the Fringe event.

6. Road Safety - DW together with SPC have provided Langton Green priorities to Kent County Council (KCC), focussing on installation of pedestrian crossing between Village Hall car park and opposite 'Twitten'. Next steps - KCC to undertake assessment of traffic and pedestrian volumes as well as complete site assessment. Further discussion scheduled at upcoming SPC Highways meeting on 6 June.

7. Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Constitution calls for AGM to take place in first half of the calendar year. Agreed to defer until September, recognising this is inconsistent with Constitution however allows for community focus and greater engagement in the hope the Pavilion Cafe situation is resolved and allows the Committee to focus on Fringe planning.

8. Other notable updates

- a. Autumn Quiz - on track for November, NL leading.
- b. Litter Picks - NL to update next time (ongoing partnership with Laura Byers).
- c. Treasure Hunt - very successful with strong community involvement. Thanks to NL for hard work coordinating with Rusthall.
- d. Fringe Event - work ramping up for event on 8 July. Tickets now on sale, c.30 stalls have been sold. Good range of food and crafts.
- e. No material updates re Gatwick.
- f. NL looking into Advent draw.
- g. Website - no update.
- h. Hanging Baskets - JB, DW, NT, LD to collect and hang on Saturday 20 May
- i. LD arranging Aerial Photograph subject to weather.
- j. LD has advertised Rusthall archaeology talk on LGVS website.
- k. SPC has asked for support to pay for picnic benches outside Pavilion Cafe. Decision deferred until licensing decision made.

Next Meeting: Monday 12 June 2023 at 7:30pm in Grace Space.