

The Dulwich Park Friends: trustees' annual report for presentation at AGM on Tuesday 25 April 2023 from 6-7.30pm Francis Peek Building

We would very much welcome anyone who would like to join us as a committee member/trustee, equally anyone who is able to help us by volunteering in upcoming events. If you are interested in helping in any way please contact us at dulwichparkfriends@gmail.com.

Principal events DPF have organised/been involved with

The main events that we have organised or been involved with during the year (all with the valued support of volunteers) are:

- Tend the park sessions- these are gardening activities in the Park- typically every month in the Spring/early Summer months and then again in the Autumn. In Autumn 2022 we planted 1000s of daffodils in the grass by the lake as well as alliums in the grass space between the boat house and the café. Other jobs have included clearing and cutting back trees in the copse and mulching the new orchard trees by the tennis courts.
- Litter picking- every Monday morning from Easter to September a small group supports the park staff in picking up litter where this has been left by visitors and then spread by foxes even if left in the park bins. Litter control in the park continues to be a challenging issue, especially when the weather is warm enough for pic-nics and take away food in the park.
- The May park fair- we support Southwark Council in organising a fair in the park every May. This year, the fair will take place on Sunday 14 May and is free of charge to enter. After a few years of Covid- related disruption this will return to full capacity with the ever-popular children's farm, craft and gift stalls, food outlets, bands, dancers and entertainment for children. We extend particular thanks to Emily Montague and Trevor Moore who put in enormous efforts to make this event enjoyable and a financial success.

Other activities

In addition to the regular events which we organise, other activities have included:

- Liaising with Southwark Councillors and park management where issues arise which affect the Park and visitors to it eg seeking support to arrange the installation of a defibrillator at the Francis Peek Centre and other Park maintenance issues.
- Making applications for Southwark Council grants to fund activities and improvements in the park, for example under the Cleaner, Safer, Greener grant funding scheme. We enjoyed good success this year with grants awarded for Tend the Park plants and materials and for lake improvement works. Sadly, our application for fox-proof and larger wheelie bins to replace the existing park bins was not successful.
- Representing the interests of park users and the preservation of the fabric of the park in the face of increasing number of commercial events in the park such as Pub in the Park and Luna Cinema.
- Representing park users at one off events- this year Emily Montague worked with Southwark Council to get a blue plaque displayed at the Francis Peek building in honour of the philanthropist, Francis Peek who first donated the land for Dulwich Park. This was unveiled last October with descendants of Francis Peek invited to the unveiling ceremony.
- Encouraging and supporting the participation of volunteer groups in park gardening and care activities. A number of corporate and school groups kindly send groups to do jobs such as weed pulling and bramble clearance in the American Garden.

- Keeping members informed about Dulwich Park with a seasonal newsletter. Celebrating the park with a calendar with park photos. This project started during lock down and we were delighted to receive photos for inclusion from park users.

Our finances

This year saw our transition to a Charitable Incorporated Association (**CIO**). As a result of this, we had to open a new bank account in the name of the CIO. Thank you to all of our members who kindly changed their standing orders to reflect this. Membership remains steady at 242 households.

Income from membership subscriptions was £2,387 and from grants received was £3,675. Expenditure during the year was £6,017.

Objectives and priorities for the coming year

Our general objectives and purposes as set out in our constitution are as follows:

“..... the restoration, preservation, conservation, improvement of Dulwich Park, hereinafter the **Park**, as a public facility of historic and ecological interest, preserving the features, conserving the natural parkland and wildlife sanctuary and enhancing the whole of the area and the use of it for the relaxation, leisure and tranquillity of the public and to stimulate the interest of the public in the Park and the enhancement of the whole area, its restoration and preservation.”

In addition to continuing to support the activities and events outlined above, our specific objectives for the coming year are:

- Increasing our membership base- as mentioned above, our numbers have reduced somewhat as a result of becoming a CIO.
- Widening our volunteer base- there are always jobs to do – please spread the word!
- Selecting some key projects to work on- eg the Japanese Garden and work to improve the overgrowth at the lake.

Thanks to members, volunteers and trustees

We are very grateful for the continued support of the members of Dulwich Park Friends. We extend special thanks to our wonderful volunteers who turn up in all weathers to help at our events. Finally, as Chair, I would like to thank our Trustees, Emily Montague, Trevor Moore, Jackie Prescott, Roland Green and Nino Harvey-Jones all of whom have put in a lot of their time and effort as Committee members. Thanks also to former trustees, Neil Ellis and Stephen Henden who retired from the Board following their move from the Dulwich area.

Jill Gauntlett, Chair,

The Dulwich Park Friends

April 2023

The Dulwich Park Friends

Registered as a charitable incorporated organisation at the Charity Commission, charity number: 1196576.

Dulwich Park Friends
Registered charity no 1196576
Accounts for year ended 28th February 2023
Receipts and payments accounts

2022		2023		
Total		Unrestricted	Restricted	
£	Income	Funds £	Funds £	£
1,135	Subscriptions	2,387	0	2,387
726	Donations and Legacies	0	0	0
401	Calendar Sales	440	0	440
2,875	Southwark Grant for Dulwich Park Fair & Concert Bands	0	3,675	3,675
0	HMRC Gift aid claim	1,108	0	1,108
56	Taken Through Square on behalf of Mayhew / Blue Cross charities	0	91	91
5,193		3,935	3,766	7,701
Payments				
12	Postage	0		0
36	IT including web site	280		280
271	Insurance	287		287
100	Misc inc AGM	302	91	393
100	Youth Concert Band	0		0
3,604	Dulwich Park Fair & Concert Bands	0	2,821	2,821
0	Litter picking Materials	33		33
283	Calendar receipts	262		262
16	Paypal & Gocardless charges	38		38
0	Tend the park	322		322
0	Plaque Francis Peek	581		581
0	Contribution - New swings	1,000		1,000
2,500	Contribution - New Path for wildlife conservation area	0		0
6,922	Total	3,105	2,912	6,017
-1,729	Net receipts (expenditure)	1,684		

Cash funds at 28th February 2022	11,169
Cash funds at 28th February 2023	12,852
	1,684

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 28th FEBRUARY 2023		
Monetary assests		
	2022	2023
Bank Balances	£	£
General fund	9,226	10,055
Dulwich Park Fair & Conce	0	854
Greener City Fund grant	1,943	1,943
	11,169	12,852

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Dulwich Park Friends

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 28 February 2023, which are set out on page 1.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: The Charity's Trustees consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to;

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act;
- and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act: and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met: or

- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S. A. Jeffries
Chartered Accountant
K. A. Jeffries & Company
18 Melbourne Grove
London SE22 8RA

Date: 23.10.2023,