

SCCOOP AGM MEETING 7.30PM, 3rd Oct, 2018
MINUTES OF MEETING (held in the Hideaway, Streatham Common)

Directors present:

Richard Payne - RP (Chair)
Alex Watt - AW
Charlie Mitchell - CM
Leo Hopkins - LH
Marcus Ward – MW
Tracy Williamson – TW

Staff/Non Board members:

Amanda Lensh – AV (minutes)
Mered Jones - MJ
Lou Kizwini – LK
Russell Lensh – RL (minutes)
Sarah MacAdam - SM
Sophie Hussey – SH

New Board members:

Rebecca Mays (elected today)

Apologies:

Oliver Picard - OP
Maggie Charnley - MC
Kevin Crook – KC

Note: The agenda was presented using a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation and therefore contained more details than are captured in these minutes. Please read the minutes in conjunction with the presentation.

1. Reports from current board members and other updates

RP introduced himself and explained the agenda. He summarised what SCCOOP is and the recent change in the SCCOOP organisational structure. He also provided a brief history of SCCOOP drawing attention to the key events and achievements reached to date. He also summarised the planned tasks for the Rookery over the upcoming Autumn/Winter.

2. Garden's report

RP summarised the Garden's report.

3. Streatham Common Local Nature Reserve

MJ introduced himself and summarised his objectives as Head Ranger.

He then summarised the proposed next season's local nature reserve projects as predominantly a continuation of the existing projects and likely to continue for a couple of years.

A few examples were:

- Woodland fence
- Ditch project
- Acid Grassland

- Hilly Four Acres
- Hedge Laying in the Rookery
- The Butterfly transect

4. Approval of 2017/18 Accounts

RP summarised the annual accounts. There was a net £10k profit due in part to a £5k VAT refund. This will be balanced by the existing £10k underfund in the current provisions. RP then explained a more detailed breakdown of income and expenditure.

5. Appointment of auditor and application of surplus funds

Chris (surname?) agreed to review accounts. As per item 4, it was agreed that the £10k profit should be used for the £10k underfund.

6. Board Elections

Two Board members up for re-election, RP and LH were accepted.

A new Board member was proposed, Rebecca Mays. She was not present but a pre-prepared written testimonial was read out and she was accepted onto the Board.

7. Update from Lambeth Council

Cllr. Clair Wilcox (Cllr. CW), Streatham South Ward provided the first updates:

- She reiterated the cooperative and supportive nature of Lambeth's relationship with SCCOOP and that she champions the work SCCOOP does within the Council.
- Praised and supported the work SCCOOP does including the help it receives from its volunteers.
- Funding has been found to refurbish the Toilets.
- The Community Garden is to be added to the signage on the Common.
- She is helping to assist the Rookery Fair with obtaining licencing (**Presumably Alcohol Licencing?**)
- The playgroup has been a success. Kiosk café is underway and due for completion in early Dec.
- Next steps will include sorting out the Depot buildings.

Lara Mifsud-Bonici (LM-B), Parks Development Officer, gave her update:

- Playground had a few equipment issues. They're safe to use and due to be fixed by mid Dec.
- Toilets are being refurbished by the Council.
- Events on the common – There's a cross country event this weekend after which the Council will start work on repairing the ground. There are no further events planned before April 2019.
- Council Parks and Leisure organisational restructure is still in progress. Some roles are vacant and recruiting remains in progress to fill these.
- Q&A session:
 - Q: How secure is Lambeth funding for SCCOOP? A: Cllr CW stated that gov't funding is always under pressure and considered on an annual basis.
 - Q: Signage on the Common – Maps are confusing. Can we have new signs? A: Cllr CW suggested this could come out of the PIL. LM-B added it to the list of items to be funded by the PIL.
 - Q: Has there been a risk assessment in SCCOOP as it has grown in size? A: (**Richard, answer wasn't clear. Should this be carried over into the next Board meeting?**)
 - Q: What is the impact across the Borough of events and will this impact the PIL? A: Cllr CW – post event remediation costs come out of the event deposit. There is a

longer term sustainment consideration where sites may need to be left 'fallow' periodically.

- Q: Playground grass has not recovered. Can other coverings be considered? A: The balance of cost and aesthetics has made grass the preferred option. Sand damages the playground equipment and rubber is expensive. Other options could be considered.
- Q: Can we have more bins in the summer? A: Potentially, big 'Euro' bins could be provided during expected peak use periods.

8. Panel discussion – The Stream Garden Restoration

LK introduced Lee Keykoop, Project Garden Designer, and Ruth Hennem, Project Community Gardener.

Between them they:

- Started with the history of what is now called the Stream Garden.
- Explained the HLF bid and its objectives.
- Went through Funding breakdown.
- Summarised the timeline of the project.
- Explained the state of repair so far.
- Explained that it is more appropriately called the Stream Garden and the project stages were split into:
 - Repairing the ponds
 - Repairing/replacing the paving
 - Plant survey and planting design
- Q&A:
 - Q: The accounts aren't clear where the HLF funding is. A: That's because the HLF funding has been transferred in three stages. 2 x 40% and a final 20% which will be made over more than one financial year.
 - Q: Was there an overspend? A: Yes, the crazy paving cost more as it was repaired to an exceptionally high standard.
 - Q: Will there be a sensory trail? A: Ruth stated that the whole garden is a sensory garden.
 - Q: Was project risk assessment made? A: LK explained his role as Project Manager and that identification and management of risk was considered from the outset and captured in the project risk log.

9. SCCOOP priorities for 2018/19: Q&A

RP opened the floor and requested attendees proposed ideas to be added to the consideration list. They are (31 items in total):

- A greenhouse in the Community Garden
- Continuation of the paddling pool
- Signage is improved and made clear
- Tennis court refurbished
- Perimeter fence secured
- Wheel chair accessible routes
- Volunteer support for wheel chair accessible days
- Country fair on 'Four acres'
- Get rid of the metal fence on the Croydon border
- Increase the number of shareholders
- Improved office space for the SCCOOP staff
- Outdoor gym
- Encourage more events
- More gardeners
- Paid fundraiser
- Plant budget

- Social media coordinator
- Communicate SCCOOP activities beyond Streatham
- Bigger Café, training rooms
- Playground screening from the A23
- Rethink the porta-loo location
- Take on Covington Way woodland and use as a forest school / classroom
- Fridge and microwave
- Drink more Inkspot beer to raise funds
- Return hardstanding(?) back to grass
- Cycle racks
- More cut down tree trunks around the Common
- Double yellow lines outside the Café
- Fundraiser car boot sale in the car park
- Use the Chlorine storage for something useful
- Do something useful with the area behind pool

10. AOB

None.

Meeting closed at: 21.43.
46 attendees including officials were present.

Date of Next AGM

To be arranged and published in due course.