



Meeting Description:	
Meeting Name:	St. John's Society Committee Meeting
Date & Time:	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 @ 20:00 Hrs
Subject:	Minutes of Meeting
Venue:	Zoom <a href="https://bbc.zoom.us/j/99734759528">https://bbc.zoom.us/j/99734759528</a>
Chair:	Paul Middleton
Secretary:	PM/AM
Meeting Closed:	21:30 Hrs

Attendance:			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Litsa Breingan (LB)	Yes	Rosie Garthwaite (RS)	Yes
Gordon Breingan (GB)	Yes	Ben Langford (BL)	Apologies
Alex Middleton (AM)	Yes	Claire Hallam (CH)	Apologies
Anastasia Saward (AS)	Yes	Paul Middleton (PM)	Yes
Nick Blomstrand (NB)	Yes		
Syd Bolton (SB)	Apologies		
John Wood (JW)	Yes		

Agenda:			
Item Number	Agenda Items	Presenter	Duration (minutes)
1	Welcome & Apologies	PM	5
2	Previous MoM to be agreed	PM	2
3	Update: Picnic in the Park (18/06/23) / FOFG	AM	10
4	Update: Greening Grp incl rain garden	NB+JW+PM +AM	10
5	Update: Station	LB	10
6	Update: Planning	NB+AS	10
7	Update: Trees	BL	5
8	Update: Radio 4 Guest Slot	CH	2
9	Any Other Business	All	20

1 Apologies	Apologies received from BL, SB and CH
2 Minutes of Previous AGM	Agreed
3 FOFG	<p><b>Picnic in the Park</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A great success for the community which raised awareness, improved community engagement, and raised funds for both FOFG and SJS.</li> </ol> <p><b>FOFG</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New play park equipment has now been installed which is a great success for the local community.</li> <li>2. There has been a reshuffle in the committee membership within FOFG whereby AM is currently acting chair with LB. New members are being recruited to enable a solid committee structure.</li> <li>3. A competition has been initiated with the London School of Garden Design and this will support the future strategy ensuring community ideas generation are captured in a future design. This competition will end in September where results will be reviewed by a to be agreed committee. Funding options will need to be reviewed at a suitable time for the realization of projects. Focus on collective fund raising including the communication with local business for financial support including grants where these might be available.</li> <li>4. A meeting is planned with Katie Delany on 28<sup>th</sup> July to improve stakeholder engagement.</li> </ol> <p><b>Lessons Learnt</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FOFG has been in a unique situation but what is evident is that people who volunteer want to be recognised for their achievements as people who volunteer are not financially rewarded.</li> <li>2. SJS will of course benefit from the picnics and having the park as a venue for events but we should be mindful that for FOFG to succeed then they must develop their own identity.</li> <li>3. FOFG committee members must be diverse and where possible represent the community to ensure diversity and to widen the ideas that are generated, but also to ensure empowerment, sustainability, and continuity.</li> </ol>
4 Greening Grp incl rain garden	<p><b>Rain Garden (Thornville Street)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The rain garden project is still progressing and TW and LBL have identified remaining funds to ensure the project continues as per plan.</li> <li>2. Meeting to be held in August between SJS, TW and LBL to progress the next steps and agree the construction schedule / works commencement.</li> <li>3. NB+PM to assess planting plan and as such now need to liaise with 'Father Nature' and Sara Raven (for plants and availability to align with overall plan)</li> </ol> <p><b>Future Rain Gardens</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Suitable locations to be identified during 2023 (AM+NB+PM)</li> <li>2. Funding strategy to be developed in readiness for 2024/2025</li> </ol> <p><b>Greening Talks</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To be reviewed and scheduled (NB+JW)</li> </ol>
5 Station	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trains: the service is being reduced, as well as only going to CST and LBG.</li> <li>2. Ticket office: there is a consultation online, closing 26/07/23. (<a href="https://www.rmt.org.uk/campaigns/rail/save-ticket-offices/">https://www.rmt.org.uk/campaigns/rail/save-ticket-offices/</a> PMN), but the closure seems inevitable.</li> <li>3. Reference BL's previous comment on campaigning for disabled access to St John's Station. It was agreed that this should be taken up by the newly to be appointed SJS Transportation Rep.</li> </ol>
6 Planning	<p><b>Deptford High Street Improvement Consultation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To be responded to by 31<sup>st</sup> July. NB to set-up a shared drive / file and communicate to SJS team for their input ahead of submission date.</li> </ol> <p><b>Bins</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bin availability is a problem within SJ's and this needs to be raised with highways (NB) / Stephen Penfold (RG)</li> </ol>

	<p>2. Note that a proper and sustainable solution is to be found</p> <p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NB to compile list of planning items for SJS committee members to comment on.</li> </ol> <p><b>Other items</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new conservation officer has been recruited by LBL and work to begin on new character appraisals for both conservation areas in 2024. NB/JW/AS to begin thinking how we can input into the process SELCE solar funding to be communicated to the wider community within SJ's. (LB?)</li> </ol>
7 Trees	<p><b>SELCHP Funding</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update to be provided on which trees have been allocated where and when they will be planted during 2023 (BL)</li> <li>An open discussion to be had on closing the gaps if any on remaining trees to fulfil the commitment we have made with SELCHP.</li> <li>Alternative candidates have been identified and if there are opportunities then these should be submitted to close gaps. SELCHP have responded with their approval for alternative locations outside of original funding proposal.</li> </ol> <p><b>Future Tree Funding</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify what other funding has been initiated in 2023 for 2024 planting and if not what is our SJS plan for 2024, so we can ensure stakeholder engagement and funding strategy agreement. (BL+AM+PM+Others)</li> </ol> <p><b>Other Items</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have received a letter about future trimming at the station that is specific about timing (they cannot guarantee to avoid the nesting season) and the need to protect railway infrastructure (the retaining wall). Stephen Penfold is interested in the aspect of trees. Not sure whether SJS makes a representation or we do it individually. BL to comment on best way forward.</li> </ol>
8 Radio 4 Guest Slot	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SJS not chosen - CLOSED</li> </ol>
7 AOB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We now need to identify a new SJS Transportation Representative. It was suggested that RG would communicate this on social media and ideally a subject matter expert in this area would be desirable, but all applications welcome for consideration.</li> <li>Communicate and email out free solar surveys – LB+RG</li> <li>Consider widening the stakeholder engagement by inviting SJ's community members to an online 6 monthly SJS meeting – TBC – LB+RG+Others</li> <li>Consider the inclusion of non-homeowners into the committee. This is a great idea in helping to widen the breadth and depth of the community voice within SJS. LB</li> <li>SJS should start to review the 2024 plan and funding strategy ready for discussion at the next meeting, so that initiatives that have been identified for 2024 can be achieved.</li> </ol>
8 Dates for Future meetings	<p><b>Dates for Future meetings (including AGM):</b> Mondays @ 8pm Venue: Brookmill Pub and/or Zoom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18/09/23</li> <li>13/11/23</li> <li>05/02/24 (AGM)</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month</li> </ul> <p><b>Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July – October 23 St John's Litter Pickers (TBC)</li> <li>Tree Watering/Advent Windows/Front Garden Sale: TBC</li> </ul>

