

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MITCHAM COMMON CONSERVATORS
(A Statutory Corporation constituted by the Metropolitan Commons
(Mitcham) Supplemental Act 1891)
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd September 2021 AT 6.30pm

Present:

Cllr. N. Draper (Chairman)
Mr. J. Cheetham
Ms A. Dines
Ms. A. Fairweather
Cllr. J. Henry
Mr. N. Jones
Cllr R. Makin
Cllr A. Pelling
Cllr C. Williams

In Attendance:

Mr. R. Auld - Conservators' Investments Adviser
Mr. M. Boyle – Manager of Mitcham Common
Mr. P. Moorhouse - Warden

Absent:

Cllr. N. Degrad
Cllr. N. Garratt

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

1. Appointment of Conservators

London Borough of Sutton: Councillors C. Williams, N. Garratt, Ms A. Dines and Mr N. Jones appointed until July 2022

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies received.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

4. Minutes (enclosed) of the last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate account. However, Cllr J. Henry asked for a change in wording as follows:

Pg. 3 – Under Motorbike nuisance, 2nd paragraph – change from “culprits” to “motorcyclists”.

This was agreed.

5. Matters Arising

Pg. 1 – Croydon Council not confirmed J. Cheetham appointment. It was reported there are bottlenecks because of reduced staffing level in Democratic Services.

Pg. 3 – Cllr Williams reported Redhouse Road planning application is not likely to be at the next Sutton planning meeting.

Pg. 4 – Cllr Williams will chase up breaches to Sutton fencing allowing motorbikes access. N. Jones confirmed the motorbike issue has recently been escalated by the Police.

Pg. 4 – Wimbledon Theatre showing film on Saturday 25th September.

Pg. 5 – No Friends of Mitcham Common were present, so it is not known if they leafleted Carshalton Road for new members.

6. Investments: Portfolio Valuation (enclosed for members) – report from Mr Richard Auld

- Market doing ok and portfolio is in good order.
- Mr Auld advised that possible future investments would be to add to the existing holding **IMPAX Environmental Markets**; purchasing new holding **Baillie Positive Change**; purchasing new holding **Greencoat UK Wind**.
- After discussion it was agreed a 3-fold plan would be followed:
 1. New investments should be with Green companies with low carbon output.
 2. No divesting for non-financial reasons.
 3. Other potential investments should be with ethical companies that still provide a healthy return.
- This 3-fold plan will be reviewed at future meetings every 3-6 months.
- **Resolved: the current Investment Sub-Group and Ethical Investments Sub-Group will be merged into one Investments Sub-Group comprising Cllr. Draper, Ms Fairweather, Mr Cheetham and Cllr. Pelling.**

7. Administration and Management Report

Conservators were in receipt of the report. The Manager highlighted some key information:

- Events on the Common: licence requests for cross-country runs in November and January.
- Events page: several expressions of interest but events page needs:
 1. Good quality 360 degree images
 2. Booking form
 3. Frequently asked questions
- Ecology Centre: Wifi now installed at the Ecology Centre.
- Croydon Road shared path: parking obstructing the path is still a nuisance.

Resolved: Cllr Draper, Cllr Makin, Cllr Henry and Friends of Mitcham Common shall write to Cllr. Whelton about the issue and copy Mr Chris Lee into letter.

8. Income and Expenditure (Until end of August 2021)

It was noted Income is up and expenditure is down due to events and adjusting management regimes.

9. Friends of Mitcham Common -To report on recent activities and to raise any relevant matters

- No Friends of Mitcham Common were present.
- A representative from 'The Small Quarter' was present at the inspection:
 - Setting up Community Project on land south of Ravensbury Arms pub
 - Applied for CIL funding
 - Creating pop-up mobile theatre
 - Creating woodworking workshops for school visits
 - They may be interested in using Common for events
 - Resolved to keep a watching brief on the project

10. Appointment to Mitcham Common Education Trust

- Maurice Groves is no longer on the board, so a replacement is needed to make the group quorate
- **Resolved: Cllr A. Pelling volunteered to join the Trust**

11. Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust

- This group has not met.

12. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 1st December 2021

13. Any Other Business

- There was no other business

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. R. D.' followed by a large, stylized flourish.