

**LOVER COMMUNITY TRUST (LCT)
Annual General Meeting**

Date: Monday 2nd March 2020 **Time:** 7.30pm **Venue:** The Old School Building

34 Members of the Trust were present. List of attendees & apologies held by LCT Secretary, Marilyn Dollard

Chairperson's Report

In summary:
LCT Chairperson, Nick Gibbs welcomed the attendees to the 4th AGM and on behalf of the Board of Trustees, thanked everyone in the community for their valued support thus far. To this end, particular reference was made to the various voluntary groups including Lover Green Subcommittee and those assisting in the all year-round management and maintenance of the Old School Building (OSB). The Chair also thanked LCT Board Members for their contribution. Reporting on the numerous, highly successful activities such as, 'I AM Fitness' and events e.g. a record-breaking Lover Fayre; Garage Sale and Lover 5k/Walk Your Heart out taking place at the OSB each year, emphasis was placed on the commitment and spirit of the community. The success of the Lover Valentine Post was enhanced by the introduction of the, 'Darling Café' comprising an effective management team, helpers and an army of bakers. The Cupids, Post Office staff, florist, PR & Merchandising team, Royal Mail, Technical & Finance team and sign makers were also commended. Such enterprise has enabled further progress to be made on the fabric of the OSB, as evident by new sliding, glass doors (community room), a new floor (front room) and general repairs and modifications. Details of the current building project and future plans, including further refurbishment of the community room and connecting facilities, were relayed and the Architect involved was thanked for his support. The Chair concluded by explaining the benefits of incorporating the wider community and made a request for additional volunteers to join the Board of Trustees.

The Chairperson's Report can be accessed in full via the LCT website:
www.lover.org.uk

Treasurer's Report

In summary:
LCT Treasurer, Peter Harper reported an income of £67,846, making 2019 the most successful year since the first year of purchase. This sum takes into account funds raised through events, donations and grants, the latter generating £25,000. Total spend was approximately £27,000, approximately £6,000 of which was used for the running costs of both the OSB and Lover Green. The remainder was invested in building improvements i.e. the community room. It was noted that at least £50,000 of the overall income originated from sources beyond the immediate area, thus minimising any adverse impact on local organisations. The Treasurer assured Members that there are sufficient funds to enable the completion of the community room.

The Treasurer's Report can be accessed in full via the LCT website: www.lover.org.uk

Lover Green Report

In the absence of Lover Green Subcommittee Chair Dave Charles, Mar Copp delivered the report.

In summary:
The main thrust of work has centred around the community orchard; thanks to all volunteers who have been involved in this and all undertakings connected with the Green. In addition to LCT events held on the Green, the area provides valuable space for a variety of functions to take place on a regular basis, all of which are open to the community and general public.

In order to accommodate all such activities, it is necessary for the general upkeep of the Green to be maintained. To this end volunteers willing to take part in an occasional work party, in whatever capacity, will be more than welcome.

The Lover Green Subcommittee Report can be accessed in full via the LCT website
www.lover.org.uk

Election of Trustees

Three Trustees retired by rotation: Marilyn Dollard, Dave Bennett and Graham Budworth.

Marilyn and Graham agreed to stand for re-election and with no further nominations having been received by the closing date,

Marilyn Dollard and Graham Budworth were then re-elected unopposed, as

	<p>Trustees.</p> <p>Two Trustees did not stand for re-election: Dave Bennett and Rachel Jones. On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Dave Bennett and Rachel Jones for their valuable contribution as Trustees. They have each expressed a wish to remain involved.</p> <p>Out of three remaining vacancies, two proposals were made by the Chair: Rob Easton and Simon Voss. Rob and Simon were co-opted onto the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The following roles were agreed: Marilyn Dollard (Secretary) Graham Budworth (Trustee) Rob Easton (Trustee) Simon Voss (Trustee)</p> <p>One vacancy remains.</p>
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several customers of the, 'Darling Café' made enquiries as to becoming a Member, the benefits of which were discussed. Please contact the Membership Secretary, Mar Copp; access via LCT website www.lover.org.uk. • Members will be informed of the final amount raised during the Valentine Post event, as soon as figures are confirmed. • Further details regarding planned work to the building were requested. The Chairperson's Report provides a full account; access via LCT website www.lover.org.uk • The issue of car parking near the OSB and in the village generally, was raised. It was noted that the number of cars parked in the surrounding area is broadly similar to when the building was a primary school. There was general acknowledgement that this topic requires all stakeholders within the village to work together to devise a solution. <p>Peter Bishop thanked the Chair and Board of Trustees for their work.</p>
Conclusion of Meeting	The meeting was closed @ 8.25pm
Date of Next Meeting	Meeting of the Trustees: Monday 6 th April 2020 @ 7.30pm at the Old School Building

Lover Green report 2019-2020

Another year and another apology from me. Sorry, but someone has to check my daughter & the Southern hemisphere are still doing OK.

This year has been 'steady as she goes'. We are at the point, forever mindful of the danger of over-using the Green, that we have just enough bookings, events and activities for the Green to remain a public and community space.

I see another generation of kids with stabilisers learning to ride – with very patient dads in tow. The young lads allowed to wander to the green for football – first adventures away from their homes. Then young adults booking the hall for birthday parties for their own kids – the cycle continues.

The major work this year has been the community orchard and thanks must go to all those involved – both those on the named committee and others roped in or volunteered. Thanks to you all – especially Ali Clarke for sterling leadership and ploughing through the ways and wherefores. Also, thanks to Jill & Fred, Dave Bennett, Ali's brother Ian, Mary & Ian, Steve Mardon, Mark Barratt, Keith Edwards, Simon Tozer – anyone I have forgotten – huge apologies.

The Lover Fayre, Safari Supper and the 5k are all established and well supported events which involve a whole range of different people. Many people comment on how lucky we are to have a great Green but that does not come without the hard work from volunteers. Bill with the grass cutting, my missus for getting stuck into the pond (literally on one session) Ali Clarke with the flower beds and Rachel continually keeping an eye on things.

And so it should be – it is in the heart of the village. As someone once put it, 'it's only a patch of grass and some trees'. Yes, but look what that means – athletics, lover ladies chill out zone, a safe area for kids to learn to cycle and play football, girls' soccer, a place for a gentle stroll for all ages and a picnic area.

You would be amazed how many different people and users get onto the green. Living where we do, we notice so much. The lad shooting hoops, the young girls chatting on the bench, some locals picnicking, families with kids visiting the village, the elder states people wandering through the green, Easter Egg hunts from the pre-school and birthday parties. Job done.

As ever, still more to do. Continual maintenance and upkeep needed so, we hope to have more working parties, please join in, if only for an hour or two, they are not too arduous and also not that often!! Always good fun though and not too much hard work.

Thank you
Dave Charles, Chair of Lover Green Sub-Committee