



Annual Report

1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017





Lyde Green Community Association (LGCA)

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

This is LGCA's first annual report. We have had a very busy and successful year. In April 2016, LGCA were beginning to come together formally resulting from local events: our Christmas event and our Summer Sizzler.

In autumn 2016, we started creating our vision, values and objectives and as of April 2017, we are now a registered charity. We have had new volunteers join us and our group has now grown into a Committee of eight Trustees.

Various work strands have been put together with support from Sovereign and Knightstone Housing which has enabled us to better achieve our aims, which are:

- To benefit the community and enhance social welfare
- To generate community spirit
- To make Lyde Green a great place to live and visit
- To strengthen our growing community for the future

Our strategic objectives are:

1. Building the local community through events
2. Partnership working
3. Listening to the Community
4. Lyde Green's New Community Centre
5. Becoming a Charity
6. Growing the board of trustees

Following our first year of operation, we are pleased that we have made significant progress across these objectives, details of which are summarised below.

"Creating our Community's future"

Over the past year, LGCA has been working hard, bringing the community together and building the future of Lyde Green. We have taken a few important steps forward to help us achieve this.

1. Building the local community - events

Beginning with our 2016 Christmas event, LGCA has delivered several events in Lyde Green to bring the community together. We have endeavoured to provide information and opportunities to get residents involved and find out more about our community. 100s of residents attended our 2016 Christmas event, which was full of festive cheer, which provided the opportunity to get to know our residents and hear their feedback.

In 2017, we held our first Easter event and our second Summer Sizzler event. Both events were well attended and a great start to the summer months.



Through our events we have aimed to provide further opportunities for residents to share their views and concerns about the local area. We feel this has enabled us to be an effective voice for the community.

2. Partnership working

Over the last twelve months, we have been fortunate enough to be a partner within a network of organisations that are committed to developing Lyde Green's new community. Partners include representatives from South Gloucestershire, Emersons Green Town Council, the Consortium of builders, Green Square, housing associations, the NHS, and the school. This forum has enabled us to put forward residents' concerns and ask for change on your behalf.

Through the Partnership group, we pushed forward residents' concerns about the delays of the new park opening and worked with other partners to get a resolution.

We have used Facebook and monthly emails to members to share information about the progress in Lyde Green (gained through our Partnership links) to residents, enabling LGCA to act as the link between partner organisations and residents.

3. Listening to the Community

Aside from at events, we have also ensured we have listened to the community at other opportunities. LGCA ran its first community survey from December 2016-January 2017 to gain insight into the activities and facilities the community wanted at the new Community Centre. We used this survey to build our business plan, and to make important changes in the specification and planning with the Council. Thank you to everyone who responded and supported us with this.

4. Lyde Green's New Community Centre.

We spent the early months of 2017 working hard on a business plan to submit to South Gloucestershire Council, for the running of the new Lyde Green Community Centre. Thank you to Southern Brooks Community Partnerships who supported our trustees with this important step.

We are thrilled to have been chosen as the operator for the Lyde Green Community Centre; it is a great privilege. We are continuing to work hard to ensure that the Community Centre can become the heart of Lyde Green once it opens in early 2018, fulfilling the needs of the growing community.



5. Becoming a Charity

In April 2017, we were pleased to be accepted by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The CIO application process involved a great deal of thought about our future, our aims, and what membership would mean for local people. Thank you to our members of LGCA. We act on the behalf of our residents, and wouldn't be able to exist without your valuable support.



6. Children and Young People

During the last few months, even in the absence of any physical space, it has still been possible to get to know many children and young people through a variety of different activities that have taken place in partnership with other stakeholders in Lyde Green.

Several families attended the cycle powered cinema held at the School, the Christmas Fair and Easter Bunny Picnic. Many thanks to the staff at Lyde Green Primary for enabling these activities to take place. Thanks also to Steve England who has led Nature Walks and Knightstone Housing who have twice provided a play bus. The Summer Sizzler was attended by many families and children enjoyed the various activities and entertainment. During Summer, Knightstone Housing and other volunteers kindly provided sports and craft activities at the new Lyde Green Park.

It has been wonderful to see the park and BMX track being well used and LGCA are now keen to learn what children and young people would like to see happening in their community once the Hall is open. To this end, a survey has been circulated to gauge interest in activities and to enable the voice of children and young people to be heard. So far there have been 28 responses from children, young people or representation of ideas from parents of younger children. At this stage, we have evidence to suggest that both a toddler group and youth activities would be welcome.

Growing the Board of Trustees

In April 2017, we had ten initial Trustees for the CIO application. Since this time, two of our trustees, Matthew and Rebecca Robertson have stepped down and we would like to formally thank them for their time and hard work.

Louise Thompson, will be stepping down from her role as Secretary at our first AGM. We are deeply grateful to Louise for her hard work as Secretary; she has been invaluable in getting our charity set up, and in supporting the committee on all levels. Louise will remain a trustee and we thank her for her on going support.

We currently have a vacancy for a Secretary and have been in discussions with a Lyde Green resident who is interested in taking on the position and joining us as a new trustee.

The Trustees are now as follows:

Honorary Officials:

Kelly Adams	Chairperson
Robert O'Brien	Vice-Chair
Alison Holliday	Treasurer
Vacancy	Secretary

Trustees:

Chris Broster
Louise Thomson
Laura O'Brien
Sally Sibley
Teresa Taylor



Thank you

Lastly, on behalf of all our trustees, we want to say a big thank you to our member's supporters and volunteers including St James Church Mangotsfield. A large amount of LGCA's success over the past year has been down to the kind volunteers who have donated their time and efforts.

Thank you also to those that have generously donated prizes to us for raffles and other fundraising activity.

We would also like to offer thanks to our generous funders including Knightstone Housing Association, Sovereign Housing Association, Emersons Green Town Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Caterings and Domino's Pizza Emersons Green.

Kelly Adams
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Lyde Green Community Association