

CGRS Directors Report 2026

A year of Corner Green adapting to changing circumstances, but it's heartening to see the Green continuing to live up to Eric Lyons' principles.

Community and Family remain at the heart - we've seen everything from Golden Anniversary parties on the green to the daily rhythm of children playing, and of course the arrival of our latest Green member Fraser. We also had a successful summer party once again.

The principles of shared parking and garage areas not disrupting the green remain largely true - though we'll come on to discuss modernisation of the garages and charging facilities in the motions. We also had to re-tarmac the pavement due to the impact of heavy electric vehicles, though have since reached an agreement with no.59 that they won't park their vehicles there, and have rejected their offers to pay in exchange for parking rights.

The appearance of our lovely new tarmac was somewhat ruined by the instillation of fibre optic broadband (itself a welcome addition once connected), and we're working with Openreach to remedy that.

Landscape integration continues to be critical to life on the green, though it's clear from the Garden Committee report, Sustainability Committee report and associated motions that the Green needs to adapt to climate change and bear that front of mind with the landscaping. Thanks to all involved in bringing these motions and continuing to care for the Green. Thanks also to David for cleaning up the lights on the Green - many of which may not have been opened since 1959 judging by the webs inside.

So the original intent of the Green and Span estates is alive, well and adapting.

Speaking of 1959, there are some gifts left to us that keep on giving.

This year Directors spent more time than we care to mention talking to Greenwich Council to try and transfer liability for the street light power onto them. Despite having a clear minute from a council meeting in the 80s, this is something of a black hole and continues to be a significant, and frustrating, cost for the Green.

Asbestos is, of course, another 'gift' from the original plans. Further to the motion at last year's AGM we've tried to find a third party asbestos surveyor to conduct a survey without success. All providers are either commercial property only or also provide replacement or removal services. We plan to draw up guidelines for replacement in line with those of The Plantation, many of whom have replaced asbestos with wooden boards and insulation.

The other 'gift' is the somewhat ambiguous relationship with the Cator Estate. By working with the Span Together group, though, we successfully pushed back on a very costly plan to introduce security guards to the estate.

Looking forward to discussing some of these adaptations in the AGM, and continuing to keep community, family space and social cohesion at the heart of life on the Green.