

**MINUTES**  
**Friends of Larkhall Park AGM**  
**Tues 13th Feb 2024 7 – 8 pm**  
**(followed by ordinary committee meeting 8 – 9 pm)**

**Attendees:** Ben Rymer, Gareth Davison, Carl Kowsky, Brendan Bouffler, Gina Douglas, Ida Turner, Paulette Lester, Wink Ogilvie, Solen Fluzin  
Zoom: Florence Daguerre de Hureaux, Nickie Bell

**Chair's report – Ben Rymer** (see attached)

Including:

Maintenance : Still issues with paths, kids play equipment etc  
Many many emails and phone calls have been made but it's still too slow.  
Don't let Lambeth win, by stopping raising these and pushing.

One O'Clock Club – a lot more activities are needed – waiting to hear whether SYCT are returning the lease to Lambeth.

Stockwell Festival – Claire Horan & Dila Varder engaged to set this up

Council looking at £38 million shortfall for parks

Vision for park – this work will continue

Nickie been busy co-ordinating, overseeing maintenance, starting action plan, Ben will recommend to LPPB that this funding continues.

**Treasurers Report – Gareth Davison** (see attached)

Including:

New bank account has been set up with better access.  
Friends financial year Jan 1st – Dec 31<sup>st</sup> (why not April to April in line with Lambeth et al?)  
Community picnic cost c. £5600  
Children's garden project: £10k funding has been allocated from Leap CoCreate  
Filming donation £250 (Nickie wrote to them)

Wink: could liability insurance be covered by Lambeth?

**New Committee**

**Chair: Ben Rymer** proposed by Brendan Bouffler, seconded by Wink Ogilvie

**Vice Chair (inc comms & membership): Brendan Bouffler** proposed by Gareth Davison, seconded by Wink Ogilvie

**Treasurer: Gareth Davison** proposed by Ida Turner, seconded by Paulette Lester

**Secretary: Nicolette Bell** proposed by Brendan Bouffler, seconded by Wink Ogilvie

**Eight committee members:** proposed by Ben Rymer and seconded by Brendan Bouffler.

1. Florence Daguerre de Hureaux – esp litterpicking
2. Ida Turner
3. Paulette Lester
4. Gina – esp governance
5. Sarah Dinwiddie
6. Wink Ogilvie
7. Linda Suggate
8. Carl Kowsky

GD proposed membership fee increased from £3 to £5: vote passed. Unanimously

BR: we need to increase membership generally.

Julia B is stepping down from Larkhall Park Partnership Board committee. Ben Rymer will take her place.

Carl: Julia, Linda and Carl were the people who encouraged the Council to set up the LPPB to oversee the money to be spent on the park. Took six years and was based on the revenue from the development of the Rising Sun Site and one on Courland Grove.

**AGM Closed.**

### **Regular Committee Meeting opened**

#### **Café**

Meeting with Kevin Crook Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 5pm

To try to dissuade Lambeth to run it themselves.

Ben R to go, hopefully Charlie Oppenheim too (and Chair of Friends of CC?)

#### **One O’Clock Club**

Still not heard from SYCT (trustee meeting last month – Sylvia new CEO said in Dec that she was going to recommend they hand back the lease)

Ben has a chat with Sylvia about this in about 10 days

Chellz who runs One O’Clock club there 2 days a week, keen to do more activities there.

#### **Fenced picnic area that is dog free**

Paulette: dogs are not controlled, grass dirty, people go elsewhere

Wink suggested a dog-free fenced area – there is an area like this on Clapham Common, by the pond, which works well esp for little kids and parties.

#### **3G Pitch**

Brendan concerned that the Council will adopt a position and then “consult”, which isn’t a proper consultation.

Gina: has anyone seen the deeds of the park? There must be stipulations on what can happen there.

Carl: Park created from land given to Lambeth Council from GLC

**Wink: happy to look online for and pay for the deeds**

Lambeth are not having an event in 2024 on Clapham Common because they were taken to court (by Clapham residents / MAC / Friends?) about 2023.

They are not looking at putting a 3G pitch on CC due to the fact that it is Common Land & the court cases that are still ongoing.

Previously, Julia B suggested redoing the grass pitch (Wink £20k to reinstate this)

11 aside Pitch cost is over £1.3 million to install and £30k+ pa maintenance.

Can get 800k from Football Federation, then Lambeth have to find the rest.

**LPPB could vote to spend £20k to refurbish the grass pitch.**

Volleyball – now Wed and Thurs Gaskell Street – they need somewhere to go.

Ferndale Road – football centre?

Ida: we need to decide what FOLP will or won't accept.

**Friends of Larkhall Park almost unanimously oppose a 3G Pitch in Larkhall Park**

**£6k left in LPPB Budget for 2023/24 – need to agree how to spend it in next week or so.**

### **Actions:**

**Decide on where to allocate remaining £6k of LPPB Larkhall Park budget this week or next, so invoices can be raised this financial year (till April 5<sup>th</sup>).** Update: Apparently this was previously agreed to be spent on more boulders to stop people driving onto the park. To be verified.

**Wink to look for Park deeds.** Update: she has sent a request to Lambeth Council under the Freedom of Information Act.

**NB to contact chair of Clapham Common re meeting with Kevin Crook about café.**

Update. This meeting took place on Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb: Ben Rymer, Charlie Oppenheim, Marky B expressed concern to Kevin about the council running a café, with no prior experience.

Charlie O successfully runs The Rookery Café on Streatham Common among others

<https://www.rootsandberries.co.uk/>. Marky B has a long history in the food and beverage industry and currently consults for leading brands. Shirley Kermer, Chair of FOCC, couldn't make the meeting.

**One O'Clock Club: Ben meeting with Sylvia in two weeks.** Update: SYCT negotiating with Lambeth re lease – confidential, no further details at present.

**Action Plan – set up meeting re next steps.** Update: Ben R organising this.

**LPPB meeting date (9<sup>th</sup> April) speak to Alex about having this Before financial year end.**

Update: next LPPB meeting 29<sup>th</sup> Feb, then 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**Not discussed in meeting:**

**Security and cleaning of changing rooms (email 13.02.24 from Hussein re theft).**

**Nickie/Ben to call Hussein & set up meeting with Alex Draper/Rodney Craig.**

Update: Alex D to arrange for changing room external door lock to be changed by Integral. Cleaning scheduled for Fri 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### **Upcoming meetings:**

Lambeth Park Friends Forum 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2024

Larkhall Park Partnership Board 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

From Alex Draper: I have had these dates confirmed by David – only caveat being on 24<sup>th</sup> April the Council has its AGM and shortly after all the Council and committee meetings are scheduled by the Lambeth Democracy Department for the rest of the year until March 2025. So it is possible that some of those dates will become clashes.

Proposed LPPB meetings 2024 – 2025

09 April

21 May

2 July

10 Sept

22 Oct

3 Dec

14 Jan 2025

25 Feb 2025