

Friends of Larkhall Park meeting
17th April 2023 7.30 pm
The Surprise Pub, 16 Southville, SW8 2PD

MINUTES

Attendees: Julia Barfield, Linda Suggate, Florence Daguerre de Hureaux, Ida Turner, Marta S, Carl Kowsky, Gina Douglas, Mark Thomas (friend of Gina D, from Edinburgh), Nickie Bell, Ben Rymer, Paulette Lester

Apologies: Linda Mills

AGENDA

1. Update to last month's actions
2. Proposal to set up a new FoLP bank account with Metro Bank
3. GDPR Privacy Policy – for review & approval – Florence
4. FoLP need to update Entrust Director's details
5. Stockwell Festival update
6. Portaloo provision in the park this summer
7. Alex accountability, expectations & timings.

MINUTES

Update on last month's actions

DONE: Create poster and publicise volunteering in the garden on Saturdays and other days – DONE & POSTERS PUT UP IN PARK AND ON FOLP WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA (thank you Gareth and Florence)

DONE: FOLP agreed a one-off donation of £50 to Community Lunch – PAYMENT MADE BY BEN R TO NILDO

TO DO: Lighting in the park - organise a walkaround with a representative (and not exclusively male) group. ALEX D PROVIDED A SCHEMA WITH PROPOSED POSITION FOR NEW LIGHTS. NEED TO WALK ROUND IN THE DARK AND CHECK THESE.

TO DO: Publicise Peggy and her wish for donation to The Friends of Larkhall Park on the FoLP website with a means of payment – NICKIE TO DO

TO DO: Send a thank you from FoLP to Delta, for having alerted us to the possibility of trees available for free, for the park. We received: 15 Cherry Plum, 10 Hawthorn, 10 Dogwood, 5 Goat Willow

Proposal to set up Metrobank account

Status on Sanander acct – Carl and Ben changed correspondence address to Gareth's. They have received the document that will allow Carl and Ben to become signatories. There should be a decision in 72 hours. If this happens we won't need to open a Metro Bank account.

IF this doesn't happen in the next week or so, we will hold an emergency FoLP committee meeting, to get a minuted agreement to open a Metro Bank account.

GDPR policy for gardening volunteers

GDPR document: need the phone number for the Volunteer phone – Gareth is getting the Sim card.

We need an email address for this. Ben proposed info@larkhallparkfriends.org.uk

Action: Ben will go through the policy to make sure it is fit for the purpose of the FoLP and that personal information is stored correctly. Nickie has done some research on the latter.

ENTRUST

Previously the Western Riverside Waste Authority gave money for environmental projects. This is a regulatory landfill tax.

FoLP applied to them and Entrust administered it. They are a regulatory body for environmental projects.

We need 6 new members on their register.

Info needed: name, address, d.o.b, occupation, employer

Action: The four executive committee members: Ben Rymer, Carl Kowsky, Gareth Davison & Nickie Bell will be on it. Two more people needed:

Gina Thomas will become a member of the FoLP, and will be one of them.

Linda Suggate will be the other.

Stockwell Festival

With the current timing, it will be necessary to apply for a TEN licence (up to 500 people), We can have a small community event.

Three dates are available: Sat 26th Aug, Sat 2nd Sept, Sat 23rd September.

Stockwell Partnership (Marta) - she could bring in contacts from different groups.

Leap Commissioned SP to deliver their programme.

SP receives funding from Lambeth Council and the Primary Care Network (inc social prescribers). Looking to close the gap between the two.

For LEAP event – she prefers the August date (for the families who don't go on holiday). They usually have up to 200 attendees (adults and children) for an event on an Estate. In Larkhall Park there may be more people there.

SPN has different event each month eg) Stockwell Community Centre - EID

Ben & Marta et al to speak again about setting up a community event.

Arranged for Fri 21st April 5pm

Portaloos

Last LPPB meeting Ian Ross said that there won't be portaloos provided for the park this summer. This is unacceptable. There are the following issues with this:

Health and Safety

Safeguarding

Lambeth Parks are using the current toilet / changing room to store gardening equipment.

We need at least two – one accessible

Action: This will be raised at the next LPPB meeting, this Thurs 20th April, and escalated if necessary.

Items for the LPPB meeting 20th April Agenda

Minute taker

Budget clarity

Capital projects money?

Accountability – actions from previous meeting –

Basic parks budget – what does the £40k cover? (grass cutting/litter))

Portaloos

Also update on:

Café

Changing rooms

How to get these places open again more quickly?

One O'Clock Club – state of disrepair & underuse – next steps?

From last LPPB meeting

Masterplan strategy - Alex D agreed to contact some possible external facilitators.

There will be an update on this at LPPB meeting Thurs 16th March. How does the

FOLP want to proceed?

Meeting ended at 8.50 pm

Alex Draper's update 17.04.2023

We have a Friends of Larkhall Park meeting this coming Monday evening (17th April).

Please can you give us an update on the asbestos situation, particularly how it pertains to the start of work for the new playground? I am having a meeting tomorrow with Mick Wynne and Ian Ross to determine the scope/content and assoc. cost of the work based on contractors suggestions. I am very aware that this is dragging from previous minutes but this is a important issue that we need to get right. For example, it is likely that any works that disturb the ground at depth must be completed or supervised by a licensed asbestos contractor and may require air monitoring carried out during the works. For example, if a trench is required to lay cable for the new lighting circuit, this will need to be completed (removed from site and replaced with clean inert soil) and made safe before any other contractors commence installation works. The play area survey pits did not find asbestos (no buildings pre war were there It seems) but given presence elsewhere this does not permit ground works to go ahead without risk assessment in place. Like all risk assessment you need to remove the risk /hazard or manage it to low levels of risk. I foresee another up to 2 weeks before we receive the report, followed no doubt by some further Q&A.

Also any other issues and jobs that have been done since your walkaround with Ben.

Can you give us a date when the picnic benches will be put in place please? I have been researching options for ground protection in and around the picnic benches. With no protection the ground will likely become worn earth plus cigarette butts and drink tops. Best option seems to be permanent paving. Greener options all have some drawbacks. So on balance I think it might be best to install them without ground protection and see how they work in those locations in the first instance. If we are happy with those locations (popular) then we can retrofit paving around them. Note the wheelchair access table will requite some ground protection leading up to it to facilitate the wheelchair access. So I will trial a softer option for that. I will need to ask if the tables installation will be a pit team or garden team job.

Just so you are aware, we will be doing a walk round the park after the meeting on Monday evening to look at the lighting in the park, as there are certain areas that have none (such as by the tennis courts) and this needs to be addressed, from a safety point of view. I've attached the current lighting extension suggestions based on previous walkabout. Note costs do not include actual excavation which might now require wholesale replacement of soil due to presence of asbestos. This will greatly increase costs.

Other notes:

- I have attached current budget forecast (over spend by 3k) . This is a working budget forecast (only agreed spend by board so far is the £4900 for FoLP). There are still several variables at play on this but it gives you an idea for discussion at least.
- Tree matters: tree works in the park probably start 1 May - work around 3G pitch and all lighting and other small jobs. I will contact the owner of the large dead horse chestnut for suggested reduction. John will be talking to me tomorrow about a memorial tree application for the park. I will pass this by FoLP for comment.
- Firework damage occurred to 3G pitch – I am seeking advice of repair options
- Received quote for replacement swing parts. Quote for replacement Galaxy climber parts has been requested. I am looking to obtain a quote to fix all low to medium issues from both play areas.
- We should have green recycle bins for use with volunteer litter picking (Florence is aware)
- Seed sowing and planting carried out by volunteers at Southville rd entrance and priory Grove entrance. Other planting continues on Southville bed. The community hedge is paused due to asbestos. We may have to make a bank to plant into to avoid ground disturbance here. New mini meadow establishing well by tennis courts.
- On Clarence's return 20th April I hope to restart the garden teams walkabout meetings. One or two FoLP reps welcome to join. This is to agree forward work plans for gardeners.
- You will be aware that Portugal Day will not now take place but Madeira day has been applied for.