

**Friends of Larkhall Park Committee Meeting  
Mon 6th Feb 2023, The Surprise Pub**

**MINUTES**

Attendees:

Ben Rymer (Chair). Carl Kowsky (Vice-chair), David Oxley (Cllr)  
Linda Suggate, Paulette Lester, Linda Mills, Florence Daguerre de Hureaux,  
Helen Marasha, Mary Rinebald, Sarah Dalwinnie, Nickie Bell (Secretary)  
Via Zoom: Grace (don't know surname)

1. Update on contracting Mia Harris to organise Stockwell Festival, from Joanne Brown.  
Ian Ross agreed that £1000 could come from the Parks budget to pay Mia until April. Alex Draper has raised a PO and Oasis will invoice for it as we are Lambeth suppliers already. Mia will then invoice Oasis at an agreed rate. She has suggested a rate for this work in the document that has been circulated.  
We will have to work out a different way to pay Mia after that as we can't have all the Stockwell Festival funds going through Oasis accounts.
2. For further funding of the Festival, Mia will put in applications for Awards for All and Changing Lives grants, with a programme of community involvement by young people in the organisation of <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/changing-lives>  
Joanne Brown has spoken to Julie Costley of Hyde Housing, and it looks like there will be some funding from them too.
3. Carl to give Ben Rymer details of Entrust, so that the FOLP details can be updated, as required by them (several years ago the park received some funding from Entrust / WRWA - Western Riverside Waste Authority)
4. Fundraising position contract - all present agreed to this position, and the proposal of Nickie Bell to fulfil the role and jobs required. It was agreed that the FOLP could part-fund this.  
When presented at the LPPB meeting, Wed 8th Feb, following discussion there last month, and the suggestion from Ian Ross that the Friends contract someone directly (so that it doesn't take over a year to employ someone, as it did with the gardeners), Cllr Joanne Simpson, who hadn't attended the previous meeting, wanted to review the role. *Ben has followed-up with emails to relevant LPPB committee members explaining the rationale for all this and making the case for NB to begin in post.*
5. Park strategy / masterplan.  
Nickie to gather the documents from previous surveys inc  
2017 Kate Swade, old master plan, shared assets, playground, various Stockwell Partnership-related reports/visions/consultations  
<https://www.stockwell.org.uk/projects/commissioned-reports/>- Helen F, Max Mueller. Present at next fOLP committee meeting  
LPPB meeting: Alex to contact possible facilitators, suggested by Helen

Firminger, to potentially organise first a group session for the FOLP/LPPB committees and interested parties, then one or two community sessions.

6. Budget for FOLP 2023 / 2024

LPPB - Find out how five thousand pound rebate (for apprentice ) is applied.

Will we have another apprentice when David leaves in June?

Design needed for large bed on Priory Grove - get a designer in to help with this (think Alex D & Linda S)

Gardeners need to report to Alex D (currently reporting to Clarence).

Look at their tasks (not conditioning MUGA etc).

Create up-to-date budget for LPPB for remaining money after salaries.

**Decide funding items to FoLP wants to prioritise, including full(ish) long-list based on suggestions from committee. Ensure funding items in LPPB budget are additional to, not a substitute for, spend that should sit in LBL budgets.**

Look at ideas for fundable things for 45k - discuss at next committee meeting

7. One O'Clock Club update - David Oxley

David has a copy of SYCT application

David and Joanne Brown to have meeting with SYCT and children's commissioner at town hall to review their deliverables.

Create a business plan of how local groups would run it, for David to take to the meeting. He wants to see the venue open for community activities five days a week and weekends.

Demonstrate benefit to local community, contact space for foster kids etc

*ACTION: incorporate this into our outreach. Discuss this item again at March committee meeting with a view to beginning drafting up a business plan/vision doc.*

8. Larkhall Depot development project.

This is not going to go ahead this year, as was previously planned.

Grenfell Report: there is a concern as to the number of staircases in buildings more than 30m high.

The Larkhall tower will have to be redesigned to have two, rather than one, and be resubmitted for planning.

David went to a planning meeting. There was talk of passivhaus development by a planning officer. Another officer in the meeting said that he would like Larkhall to be a showcase for sustainable development, to help Lambeth fulfil its climate targets and obligations. Danny Adilypour, Cabinet Member for Sustainable Growth & New Homes was there.

9. Groundsource heat pumps (as per Brockwell park) - Carl mentioned this.

He has had a meeting with Kevin Crook about this. It will be suggested as part of the new consultation on the Larkhall Depot project.

<https://poweringparks.wearepossible.org/#:~:text=Powering%20Parks%20is%20a%20project.income%20to%20re-invest%20locally>

10. Volunteer gardening days will be at the end of February and 11/12 March  
- Alex D to let us know and put a poster up.

8.50 pm meeting closed. Remainder of agenda items to be discussed / progressed at next meeting, or by email.

**Next FOLP meeting: Tues 7th or Tues 14th March (to be confirmed)**

LPPB Meeting 20: Thu 16/03/2023 18:15 - 19:30

**FOLP meeting: Mon 17th or Tues 18th April**

LPPB Meeting 21: Thu 20/04/2023 18:15 - 19:30

Update from Alex Draper, by email 6.02.23

Asbestos in the park: Contractor to investigate this has been appointed. First on site meeting 21 Feb. Should get a schedule then.

Playpark - No news from Earthwright yet about reworking some elements, and contacting fencing contractor.

Possibility of having a climbing boulder in the park, as per Wicksteed playground bid. We need to be certain where this would go and may link with new Skateboard features and form part of same grant application.

Coffee van - permissions and status.

I'm getting a quote for power supply from council contractor. Waiting on Samia to tell me what sort of equipment and power use she would require.

Slide in playground parts are on order

Swings in small playground ?

Path by the playground surfaced. Recycled gravel in Priory Grove main entrance.

Alex will update maintenance spreadsheet and remind Clarence also this week.

**Remainder of agenda items - to be discussed at next meeting, and progressed online before then.**

11. Agree guidelines for park noticeboards *and process/permissions for doing this (Alex does not have key for all notice boards - he should have, as it is the same lock for all of them) Ben: we did agree guidelines at Dec walkaround but nothing has happened since then. Content still out-of-date and not being refreshed. I suggested to Alex that a key be purchased to access the noticeboards but nothing actioned since then. Nickie: I have a key, and previously gave at least a couple to Alex. I will liaise with him re keys.*

12. Community garden structure & fundraising

(Battersea Park has a successful Thrive garden - look into how this is run)

Growing vegetables. Lunch club - agree small donation to support this (£100-£200)

13. Commemorative plaque for Pegetha?

*Process for installing commemorative items (plaques etc) in the park & update on process for planting commemorative trees*

*Alex updated by email on Feb 2 that "For memorial trees – it starts with customer contacting me to propose location and species. Then I would bring in the tree officer (John Mackie) and operations supervisor (Clarence Riley) to agree and make alternative suggestions if required etc. Once agreed the customer would make the payment and then the Tree Officer would raise the PO for the tree. Planting date would be agreed.*

*Note we do not allow staked plaques for trees due to them going missing - plaques for trees are only allowed in Cemeteries."*

*Gareth has asked the family what they want to do - update pending.*

14. Redo website - contact area, newsletter sign-up, donation, *linking with our social platforms and Google calendar*, membership sign-up areas in particular

15. Information panels about Larkhall Park - who can store them? (currently in LP changing rooms). Scan them (some A1 size)

16. Planting and Hard Landscaping update - Linda S

17. Banking update - Gareth

18. Lighting in the park - organise a walkaround

19. Other maintenance issues - from walkaround with Alex Draper

20. Café status update and next steps

**Notes from Linda S: Just to let you know that I have spoken to Alex Draper on the following points which I will report on in more detail at the FoLP Committee Meeting next week:**

Details of the gardeners' attendance at the park and allocation of costs including the Apprentice Gardener's training day since his working days in Larkhall Park have reduced to 2 per week. AD will discuss with Ian Ross at their meeting this Friday and inform us.

Dates for local volunteer work days. AD will issue this week.

Pruning the hornbeam hedge in Priory Grove which has been outstanding since 2020 and is now urgent. AD will follow up again with Clarence Riley (CR).

Moving 3 Cornus to restructure the long bed at Wandsworth Road as agreed with CR on 1st December last year. AD to follow up again with CR.

Hedge plants for around the Community Garden. AD has ordered.  
Resolving painting, repair or replacement of 3 bins near Wandsworth Road entrance which were included in the contract for bins in 2021 but never dealt with by CR's team. 5 new bins ordered by Alex Draper (AD), but cost of labour to be resolved.

Team meetings for gardening/ landscape group will be reinstated. AD will issue possible dates.

### **Summary of actions from FOLP meeting 10.01.23 to be taken before next meeting 06.02.23:**

**Ben R** - find a GDPR policy suitable for having volunteers etc

Research and purchase suitable phone and sim card for leader of volunteer gardeners group to use.

Invite Alex Draper to snagging list park walkround

Contact Michaela, re being part of park comms group. Nickie also to contact her  
Find masterplans from other parks. *(Myatt's masterplan has already been shared. Alex D to share others - Ruskin etc, Ben will seek others at next Lambeth Parks Forum, date TBC).* <https://www.friendsofruskinpark.org.uk/park-improvements/>

Grace contacted and has confirmed her interest in volunteering with FoLP, for priority areas.

Plan for stall in the park as suggested by Ida (materials, timings, design a '60-second survey' and flyer to hand out). Find someone with design skills to help with flyer etc

**Nickie** - Share with Ben (and committee) G-doc of how the One O'Clock Club could be used by local groups and people

Send Ben original application form document for One O'Clock club proposal

Speak to David Oxley re next steps for One O'Clock Club. *Clarify with him whether he can use his roles on the councils' Children's Services Committee and Overview & Scrutiny Committee to examine the current SYCT arrangements.*

Set dates and location for next few meetings

**Carl** - confirm with Joanne Brown when Mia can start

Confirm with LPPB that there is 15k in next year's budget for festival, and money is available in this year's budget as necessary

Need to apply for Awards for All 10k

*Share details on timelines for planned Festival with Ben R, Nickie and Gareth*

**Gareth** - continue with bank signatories' transfer

*Share example GDPR policy with Ben*

*Regularly liaise with Alex D to nudge on repairs/works and update on new jobs on the snagging list*

**Action needed** - talk to Chris re soup kitchen / evening meal idea. *Confirm that the six volunteers she mentioned are interested/able to contribute their cooking skills*

*Work with Ben/Paulette on the stall to collect feedback/ideas from park users.*

### **Questions for Alex Draper**

Alex: public liability insurance - what is needed here for the park?

Alex - update needed on all park business inc:

Cafe - who is the preferred contractor? What is likely start date on roof repairs?

benches - ordered. What is expected delivery date?

Appoint contractor to investigate asbestos in park and get this done asap. Gareth to oversee this. Funding for new playground - will this be held into new financial year or does invoice for the work need to be raised now?

Dates of next LPPB meeting

*Final date for confirmation of 2023/24 LPPB budget and residual balance available to be spent after salaries*