

Friends of Larkhall Park Annual General Meeting, 10th February 2021

Present: Ben Linton, Blake Gilchrist, Paulette Lester, Gareth Davison, Pegatha Gaile, Linda Suggate, Paul Smith, Emma Draper-Coates, Lewis Linton, Carl Kowsky, Louise Gibson, Charlie Oppenheim, Florence Daguerre de Hureaux, Philip Inglesant, Claire Jostins, Ben Jostins, Julia Barfield, Nickie Bell, Euan Kennedy, Ida Turner, Matthew Clark, Linda Mills, Sarah Lush, Ildiko Toth, David Oxley, Jan Kirkpatrick

November 2018 AGM Minutes were approved.

Chair's Report (see attached).

Ben Linton asked the chair to recognise the support that the park has received from London Probation's Community Payback team and to recognise the huge impact the team have had on the park prior to lockdown would not have been possible without the support of Oasis and the Larks Community Garden. The Chair accepted this point and agreed for it to be noted.

Treasurer's Report (see attached).

The committee and members expressed their sincere thanks to Christian LaFlamme for his years of work as Treasurer.

Blake Gilchrist was nominated for Chair, and confirmed.
Gareth Davison was nominated for Treasurer, and confirmed.

Nickie Bell suggested that we refine our nominations procedures in the future to ensure that nominations are published sufficiently in advance, to be as transparent as possible. This was accepted by all, in the spirit of continuous improvement and learning.

Julia Barfield thanked Carl for his work as Chair as he has now stood down in this role. She detailed his achievements over many years and all the members echoed her thanks and support.

Gareth accepted the nomination for treasurer and detailed his experience performing the role in other groups. He has been involved in the community garden for several months and is speaking with Christian to understand the role and history fully.

The general meeting commenced.

Honorary roles were elected:

Ben Linton was nominated for vice-chair and confirmed.

The secretary role has received no nominations, and the role will be performed jointly by Blake and Ben.

The role of membership secretary was discussed and Blake suggested that there is significant overlap between this role and treasurer. This will be discussed outside the meeting.

Election of committee members:

In addition to Blake, Gareth and Ben, the following were nominated and confirmed:

Julia Barfield
Claire Jostins
Linda Suggate
Carl Kowsky
Florence Daguerre de Hureaux
Pegatha Gaile
Nickie Bell

Linda Mills was nominated for the committee. Whilst the constitution currently only allows ten members, Linda was welcomed to the committee pending altering the constitution to allow a larger number.

Next committee meeting is on the 23rd February. It was agreed that the preliminary meeting dates suggested after that may be altered so that the FoLP meetings align usefully to the Park Partnership Board dates.

AOB

A company called Shared Assets are undertaking some work to support the Friends and wider community in a visioning exercise. Initially this will consist of stakeholder interviews to understand the needs and goals of all who use the park.

Nickie suggested building links with the Surprise Pub as a local partner. This was well received by the members and there was a feeling that we should increasingly engage with all local businesses.