**Friends of Larkhall Park**

**Committee Meeting, Monday 24th May 2021 @ 7.30pm**

**Online meeting via Zoom**

Attendees

* Blake Gilchrist (BG), Carl Kowsky (CK), Julia Barfield (JB), Gareth Davison (GD), Ida Turner (IT), Linda Mills (LM), Nickie Bell (NB), Paulette Lester (PL), Helen Marasha (HM), Linda Suggate (LS), Sarah Lush (SL), Pegatha Gaile (PG)

Apologies

* Ben Linton (BL), Florence Daguerre de Hureaux (FDH), Alex Draper (AD)

**Minutes**

* [Minutes from 26th April 2021](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ude9_mnE8GSdPowwFK231hzbJ8fszjpqsQ2XzSA_u3E/edit?usp=sharing) were approved
* FoLP website URL change (BG)
	+ Previous URL [larkhallparkfriends.org.uk](https://www.larkhallparkfriends.org.uk/) updated to [friendsoflarkhallpark.org.uk](https://www.friendsoflarkhallpark.org.uk/) to make consistent with organisation name (redirect in place for old URL)
* Arts4Space grant application update - (BG)
	+ Previous funding window was too tight to supply all requested additional info. Decision taken to submit application again under the new funding window (opened mid-May) to give more time to get bid right.
* Arnold Clark Community Fund (BL/PG)
	+ Ben advised didn’t have time to apply in previous month’s round/draw. To apply for next one.
* Larkhall Park walkabout with local Police and Lambeth - Blake Gilchrist (5 mins)
	+ BG gave summary of recent park walkabout on 19th May with FoLP, local police, Alex Draper, and Clarence (Lambeth) to review areas associated with anti-social behaviour (rough sleeping, drug dealing, etc). Areas confirmed and noted by Alex for future planning/consideration. Phased solution suggested, starting with removal of ground undergrowth to reduce cover for anti-social activities.
	+ LM asked to be included in similar future activities as she sits on local police panels and can help interface. BG apologised as this was organised at fairly short notice and it’s hard to keep everyone updated and involved on all activities, but noted for future reference. LM also suggested possible opportunities to further improve connections with local police - lots of local funding/activities going on. Nickie asked whether an FoLP sub-group could be created to help with this.
	+ GD asked about recent local police presence in park on 20th May). BG advised this was due to an assault incident, as per report from Tim Williams (Met Police). BG to forward on to committee for reference.
	+ On the theme of improving positive activities in the park to help improve social equality, Nickie also noted that G-Tennis have started an initiative to get 100 kids play tennis, sponsored, suggest FoLP promote via our mailing list.
* Larkhall Park redevelopment sites update - (BG/JB)
	+ JB provided overview of FoLP’s “Design Progress Meeting” with Homes for Lambeth (HfL) on 21st May. Summary: positive progress in many areas in response to previous FoLP feedback.
	+ HM advised she had contacted HfL after the last consultation to request a meeting with BigKid. Scheduled for 8th June.
	+ IT - lots of ops to involve community groups. BG suggested circulate list of proposed stakeholders to FoLP mailing. Larkhall community.
	+ LS suggested we ensure AD is involved going forwards. Action: LS/BG.
	+ Meeting scheduled 27th May to discuss Community Space provision with Locality (organisation contracted by HfL to explore this and produce report)
* Update on 2020-21 Partnership Board expenditure items - LS
	+ LS advised items are progressing through the system (new benches, bins, tools, container, etc). To chase again.
* Larkhall Park staff - recruitment update Linda Suggate (5 mins)
	+ Full time Gardener position has now been advertised - interviews scheduled for 23rd June
	+ Gardener Apprentice employed - Ian Ross (Lambeth) will confirm start date once ob-boarding processes complete
* Community Garden update - BG
	+ BG advised that the Larks have now left after their final access period expired
	+ BG to pick up on reviewing new licence agreements and working framework
* Shared Assets visioning exercise - BG
	+ BG  working Louis stakeholders, possible overlap with Locality work
	+ BG to circulate Google spreadsheet to FoLP for input
* Agree initial items for approval at next Partnership Board meeting (will need to be costed) for 2021-22 period.
	+ LS will circulate list
* Dates for next FoLP Committee Meetings (next two months) - All
	+ Tuesday 29th June
	+ Agreed to set following one after next LPPB meeting date set
* AOB
	+ Next Larkhall Park Partnership Board meeting - 1st June, invite/agenda to be circulated by AD
	+ Liability Insurance - BL
		- Still waiting input from other park groups to check that the quote we got will cover what we need
	+ Southville Road redevelopment update? (CK)
		- Caroline Streeks (Lambeth) sent estimates - £60k, including approx £8k in various “fees”. CS mooted idea of using £59k from 2021-22 Partnership Board budget for this.
		- FoLP committee strongly objected to this idea, given that this is a Capital Improvement project and previously had funding allocated largely via  S106/CiL. CK/JB to raise at next LPPB meeting.
	+ Update on Children’s Playground - Nickie Bell?
		- Survey created in partnership with Lambeth has gone live
		- Arranging to consultation with Oasis, Shared Assets will attend (June)
	+ Walkabout park with Ian Ross, Alex Draper, etc.
		- LS has started to create a list of priority items FoLP would like AD to work on. Circulate to FoLP then onto Ian Ross.
	+ Larkhall Park Partnership Board updates
		- Kevin Crook stepping down from board, AD taking his position as one of Lambeth’s representatives.
		- LS asked for draft minutes to be circulated. Budget confirmation. Julia/Carl to push on outstanding questions about budget (itemisation/accounts, whether we can carry leftovers over to next year, etc)
	+ Noticeboards in the park
		- Old ones have now been replaced. NB/CK have keys and some spares. One lock not working (by Tennis Courts). NB to liaise with AD/Lambeth to resolve.
		- Three additional new ones on order. Suggested locations for discussion:  Wandsworth Road entrance, (bus stop/planting), corner Priory Grove/Jefferey’s Road (replace old metal one), Priory Grove entrance (carting), NB to send BG map locations. BG action send around to FOLP agreement, then Carl to forward to Theresa.
		- Ideas for new posters:
			* How to get hold of keys
			* How to contact friends
			* Community garden volunteering opportunities
	+ Toilets in park
		- PL - too prominent in park. BG advised that NB has already asked about relocating these.
	+ Astroturf (3g pitch)
		- HM advised that BigKid have had to move sessions to other venues but not ideal.  BG chase Lambeth for update on pitch assessment.
	+ Cafe
		- HM advised they have managed to get in to have a look. Lot needs doing. Leak ongoing issue.
	+ One O’Clock Club occupation (SCYT)?
		- NB: asked for update on what’s happening. BG to chase SYCT.
		- HM advised that BigKId have stopped running youth workshops out of the OOOC for now due to costs. BigKid have a site at Dexters in Brixton that is free for them to use, and it seems people are happy to travel there. FoLP queried why BigKid were being charged.
		- IT stated she felt that additional nursery-type provision was not needed as there are already several in the local area.