



Minutes

Committee meeting

Tuesday 21 January 2020

7.15pm, True Craft, West Green Road

Present: Charlotte, Robert, Mike (minutes)

1) Constitution

The committee discussed whether any amendments were necessary to the constitution, which has remained in its present form since the Friends were founded in December 2017. Any amendments would need to be tabled for approval at next month's AGM.

No amendments were proposed, but Mike suggested that scheduling AGMs from next year onwards in the spring months would be an effective way of attracting more volunteers. This was **agreed**.

2) Annual General Meeting

The next annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 February 2020. The original date in December 2019 was postponed in the hope that a meeting after Christmas would attract greater interest from local residents.

There was discussion of where to hold the meeting. Lomond Hall, our traditional venue, is not available due to a leaky roof. Charlotte contacted a neighbour to find out whether the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses on Seven Sisters Road might be available, but was later informed that it was not.

The committee **agreed** to ask the Fountain Area Residents' Association (FARA) for use of its venue on Brunwel Walk. **(Action: Robert)**

3) Summer event

The proposed date for this event is Sunday 5 July, which does not clash with either the Wimbledon Men's Final or the Euro 2020 football final, both of which are being held in London. The committee **agreed** to revive its successful working relationship with FARA to

plan the event. Now that the Friends' bank account is up and running, Mike said it would be much quicker than it was last year to pay back vendors.

The possibility of a second band performing during the afternoon was discussed. It was agreed that this was worth investigating further. **(Action: Robert)**

Robert proposed applying for a temporary alcohol licence from Haringey Council so that locally brewed beers could be sold during the event, perhaps by developing the successful partnership with True Craft from last year's party. **(Action: Robert to investigate)**

Mike said if alcohol was to be sold on site, there would need to be non-alcoholic options too and suggested inviting a pop-up coffee shop/mobile tea station. **(Action: Mike to look into possible vendors)**

Charlotte said it was important to ensure the council mowed the grass in the park around a fortnight before, and not a few days beforehand as happened last year.

4) Park maintenance

A winter mow is urgently needed — including in the proposed wildflower strip — so that we can rake off the cuttings and plant seeds before the spring. **(Action: Mike to check with council)**

Charlotte will lead on developing the park's management plan, which will cover the strategy for managing its flower beds, verges and landscaping. Her expertise (she has a degree in environmental conservation) makes her the ideal person to write the strategy. Robert suggested reaching out to a conservation charity such as Plantlife to see if they could give whatever we agree an official stamp of approval. **(Action: Charlotte to prepare park management plan in time for the first week of April)**

The committee discussed the idea of installing fencing around the wildflower meadows and the hawthorn tree that has been cut back by the council where large quantities of bread are routinely abandoned. **(Action: Mike to research costs and enquire whether council can help pay)**

Northwestern corner: the committee **agreed** to set a date in the spring and issue a call for volunteers to plant a pyracantha shrub along the wall in this part of the park, beneath the

sycamore tree. This is a neglected area of the park and the bush may help deter antisocial behaviour. Mike is in touch with the council regarding the branches of the sycamore tree, which are getting dangerous long again and are touching neighbouring buildings.

Pathways: the path connecting the Brunswick Road and Roslyn Road gates was dug up by UK Power Networks in November but relaid very poorly. We liaised with the council and the path and the contractor corrected the work on the weekend of 18-19 January.

Railings: several poles have fallen out of the fencing bordering Brunswick Road and are in need of repairing.

5) Friends management

The committee agreed a new secretary to replace Vicky is sorely needed and will actively search for nominees ahead of February's AGM.

Mike noted the passwords on the Friends' email account had not been changed since the group was formed, and proposed changing these immediately to reduce the security risk.

(Action: Mike)