

Meeting Notes 22/06/2023

Present:

Andy Tapper
Tony Stott
Lorinda Skipper
Andrew Cobb
Mary Parke
Joyce Lancaster

Michelle O 'Doherty. Councillor
Sammy Kelly Councillor

Apologies: Sue Leichi

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed.

Michelle and Sammy were welcomed to the meeting. Their support is appreciated.

Actions from the last meeting

The group accounts were signed off by Carol Hinton and produced at the AGM. Current Chair, Secretary Treasurer and Membership posts were seconded and re-appointed.
Recovered bench and oiling/painting are outstanding
Amber, from YourParks, has been invited by Andy but has not replied. In the meantime Mali is researching costs for outdoor gym equipment.
Mary and Joyce have completed membership letterdrops in their immediate vicinity. The group currently has 27 members.

Chair:

Plans for a proposed event on 1/7/23 have been abandoned. This proved to be more complicated than anticipated. It would also have clashed with and overshadowed by a larger event on Weston Rec.

The woodchip was delivered by the council and has subsequently been spread along the path leading to the far gate.

The area around "Tony's tree" has been largely cleared and cardboard is being collected and stored and more barking requested.

On Tuesday Andy, Mary and Tony did a park walk with Mali to discuss possible future plans. Malis will try to find out where we are on the list for a bark delivery. Sammy added that Rooted allotments may also have a source that we could enquire about. She will also try to arrange help from the YourParks task group to help clear the second larger area of stinging nettles. She will look into the possibility of a notice board. Mali suggested considering creating a compost area.

Lorinda suggested that the group needed to identify its focus going forward. Neither the council nor the Friend group have much in the way of funds. The Park currently has a large expanse of wild area near the play area. If we are successful in completing the area under

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the tree that has been largely cleared, the larger stinging nettle area and perhaps the overgrown area by the entrance gate this will greatly improve the balance of the park.

It has been suggested that the area under the tree could be made into a more cultivated area with a bench to sit on.

The gate area is partly dependent on the council's position in relation to the promised boundary.

The third area would perhaps be appropriate for a couple of pieces of outdoor gym equipment. It is time to think about fundraising at a future date. Yourparks will offer some advice regarding this and Michelle raised the Community Infrastructure Levy as a possibility.

Lorinda proposed that we have a work party hour to complete the "Tree" clearance, oil the benches, clear the previous bark pile etc. It was agreed that this would be on Sunday 2nd July at 10am.

In terms of communication we could perhaps think about how we publicise this and make sure we cover all avenues: website, facebook, posters, email.

Extdoor was discussed and discounted. Andrew suggested an article in the Chronicle. Michelle added that we could consider a regular work slot once a month.

Designated Open Spaces -Michelle

The council have asked for nominations for areas to be considered for this status.

Michelle has a copy of the initial document to start this process which she handed to Andy.

Actions:

Michelle will forward information on the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Michelle will enquire where things stand in terms of funding and timing of the boundary fence.

Michelle will enquire whether we could have a key/access code for the vehicle gate entrance.

Michelle will email Mark for details of the wood he used for the previous bench upgrades.

Andy will draft an article for the Chronicle

Andy will publish details of the Weston Family Day on the website and facebook.

Andy and Tony will work on the Designated Space initial application.

Publicity for work hour on 2/7/20

Lorinda. Facebook.

Posters

Andy. Website

Group email

Next Meeting

Friday 21st July at 10.30am at 14 Westfield Park.