

Liquorice Park 13th May 2019 Public Meeting Minutes.

Joiners Arms, 7- 8.40pm.

Attendees- Chris Padley, Nicky Watson, Nicola & Colin Macpherson, Frances Carson, Penny Toone, Bob Speck, Phil Cragg, Richard Bayles, Oliver Crewen, James Brown, Seb Hook, David & Linda Royle, Emily Contour.

Apologies- Dudley Thomson, Alison & Paul Griffiths, Tina Speck, Stephen Carson, Tracey Smith, Claire Taylor.

Welcome by Chair – Phil Cragg.

1. Trustee Update-

- A **Management Plan** has been formulated for the overall maintenance of the Park. Volunteer appointees have been given responsibility for separate areas of the park whereby they will provide regular updates, provide a maintenance schedule and co-ordinate volunteer requirements as required.
- The **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR) has been completed with special thanks to Claire for her support.
- **Risk Assessments** have been completed by Richard.
- **Publicity/ Fundraising Role** has been volunteered by Nicola.

2. Park Area Report -

- Please see table.

3. Volunteers Report- Alison

Thanks to a strong and enthusiastic band of volunteers, the park is looking good and being enjoyed by an increasing number of residents and visitors. It is encouraging to see more students and young adults benefiting from being in a green space.

Because of the winter clearing of brambles and scrub, the spring bulbs have flourished and the work on the herb and community gardens have created a splash of colour and has attracted many insects.

Generally, there are two volunteering sessions a week with an average of 5 volunteers at each session. Last Saturday the Lincoln Geo Cashers joined with park volunteers and a successful morning resulted – the viewing platform and wooden seats received a much-needed coat of preservative treatment. Wildflower seeds were also planted, the youngest member (3 years old) was proud of her ability with the mechanical litter picker and a good time was had by all.

Over the next few months volunteers will continue to carry out path maintenance, weeding, herb planting, topiary cutting and bin emptying and any other maintenance jobs that occur. It is hoped that visits and other events will be organised for volunteers and supporters to learn more about creating and maintaining good habitats for wildlife.

Lynda Royle has organised a Cubs/ Scouts group volunteer session for end June/ July and believes they may be interested in offering their support once a term throughout the year.

4. **New Seating-** following on from the previous meeting it was suggested providing a couple extra seats would be beneficial.
- General thoughts were to have the seats natural and low-cost options
 - Penny to review ideas & where best to place additional seating
 - Chris suggested by 'Alderman's Walk there is a large felled tree trunk that could be used, it was suggested the council may be willing to help with this?

5. **Website & Facebook update- Seb & Phil**

- A new website has been created and re-designed, please follow www.liquoricepark.co.uk It is modern, displays pictures, demonstrates the history of the park and advertises updates & current park events.
- Seb has negotiated with the host and obtained a 'Free to Charity Scheme' which provides professional grade hosting & offers some perks such as- unique email addresses, for example events@liquoricepark or information@liquoricepark etc, these are yet to be assigned.
- Outstanding concerns- Seb to review becoming no 1 or 2 on google search & currently there is no link to Facebook, link to interactive maps (Bing) currently a working progress.
- Bob suggested the updates should be displayed for the public- outcome was to include minutes of meetings which will be displayed on the website.
- All new events or happenings in the park should contact Phil who will co-ordinate with Seb to monitor and display on the website or Facebook.
- Any suggestions or feedback re website or Facebook relay to Phil & Seb.
- It was noted that currently Facebook does not easily connect to adding as a friend and therefore leads to missing out on the newsfeed- Seb thought this may be related to an issue with guidance and will review & update everyone on his findings and provide knowledge on 'How to connect easily etc'
- Suggestions and discussion around the benefits of having an Instagram account such as it would encourage people to take pictures and share them, discussions are ongoing.

6. **Fundraising Opportunities –**

- Discussion surrounding the possibility of using **crowdfunding on Facebook** platforms or **website donate button** or using '**Go Fund me**' for charities to raise monies which could be used for ongoing maintenance, plants or seeds, expert visits or events for example- Outcome was crowdfunding is more complicated and perhaps a simple 'Donate Button' on the web page would be an easy and useful addition to the website- Seb to review & liaise with Phil.
- There was discussion surrounding the possible idea of allowing signage either to be discreetly in the park or website in efforts of fundraising. Our current sponsors & supporters are- Siemens, Wren & Co-op, therefore may be an idea for trustees to explore this idea as a fundraising option at their next meeting.
- Chris suggested Wilko, Wickes have staff volunteers and community projects worth considering- Nicola to review.
- Bob raised on Tina's behalf about the 'Remembrance Plaque' requested by a member of the public that they display on the vertical side of the viewing area- they would like to gift a donation in exchange. All members have agreed to go ahead & Nicky Watson to email Tina with Account details. This money is earmarked for eventual repair of the viewing area.

- Liquorice Park Calendar 2020 is being designed by Penny Toone with a combination of Art pieces and Photos. Penny has requested more please, these photos are to be of the park, plants, shrubs or features in different seasons of the Park. Please email Penny, print is aiming to take place October/ November. It was suggested that pre-orders would be good before printing and the website or Facebook may be a useful tool. Seb to review options.
- Seb suggested a Photo contest and is happy to co-ordinate.
- Nicky has pictures and will co-ordinate with Penny.

7. Well- being Event-

- A well being event during the summer to be organised, a working party & separate meeting date to be established, if interested in volunteering email Nicola.
- Nicky volunteered to do radio publicity.
- James/ Oliver offered support re leaflets for advertising.
- Would possibly look to be holding the event at the end of school holidays- August?

8. Performance Area upgrade-

- Any ideas please email Phil or contact Alison.
- It was suggested to approach local entities such as Universities or Siemens who may have an interest in brainstorming ideas also.

9. Recycling Bins-

- There has been contact with the council to have some installed.

10. Park signage-

- Trustees are currently researching options to replace the signage.

11. Viewing platform Panorama photo-

- It is felt that the photo requires an upgrade- to be reviewed

12. Any other business-

- Chris suggested the railing in Yarborough Crescent requires to be painted.
- A special thanks to Paul, Richard and Colin for the marvellous repair to the steps.

Many thanks to all trustees and the volunteers for continuing efforts and support of Liquorice Park.

Park Reports – 13th May 2019

Park Area	Person Responsible	Report
Herb Garden	David Royle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold on creating extra seed bed • Plant coriander • Clear seed beds- problem with twitch grass, needs to be cleared • Budget of 40 pounds for seeds and planters (mint) • Dead Hedge ongoing- honeysuckle planted through it • Introduced to a new volunteer Emily, who is a Herbologist and would like to share her knowledge. • Rats seen
Orchard	Chris Padley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good year for blossom • Nicky/ Chris making labels to identify trees • Request for a public notice to be created re 'not picking too many apples at once'. • There is an increase in orchard flowers, suggestion to not cut to allow these to flourish • Trees will need feeding • Bluebell donation- suggested native variety only accepted
Meadows	Bob Speck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good display of cowslips, a good year- long season • Purple Veg are flowering • Will watch invasion of brambles • Need to cut out Hogweed- may need support • Cut not required- leave just now to provide good display • Stone seat requires maintenance- discussion results was to re-connect with Luke Pollard who originally built the seat and advise on repair options.
Brambles	Richard Bayles & Dudley Thomson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain current paths by keeping them open.
Copses & Topiary	Penny Toone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respecting quiet time at present for birds nesting • Will conduct mini survey to remove mini trees to allow saplings to grow and allow the light to support that growth, as advised by Sarah Bright. • Wood removed will be re-used for borders & maintenance of footpaths • Topiary about to be manicured
Willow Hedge	Frances Carson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking good
Entertainment Area	Alison Griffiths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rats- growing issue, council has advised when seen active in daylight hours, bait boxes must be used to reduce rat population. Task completed recently • Bird feeders have been removed.
Upper Terrace	Tina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackcurrant bush is showing promise • Cut a path using the push mower • Watch to see what grows and avoid cutting • Allow the cow parsley to grow • Three hawthorns planted below the old apple tree and are doing well so far.

Summary table of tasks 13th May 2019

Subject & timeline	Person responsible	Task
New seats	Penny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large tree, who will contact council? • Review ideas for seats and placement
Website	Seb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co- ordinate with trustees & assign emails attached to website • Review website efficiency i.e. No1 search on google • Provide information for a 'donate button' on the website • Create Photo competition and co-ordinate with Penny pictures for Calendar
Fundraising	Nicola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect info on current sponsor support • Look to the wider community re local business support and sponsorship options
Calendar	Penny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect pictures from Nicky, Seb's photo contest • Seb to review supply and demand on website & Facebook
Well-being event	Nicola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise volunteers meeting within two weeks
Park signage	Alison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain quotes within next month or two.