

# Minutes of the meeting of Liquorice Park trustees

6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Highview

## Those in attendance

Alison Griffiths (AG), Penny Toone (PT), David Royle (DR), Phil Cragg (PC) (Chair). Also, in attendance Mel Marsh (MM)

## 1. Apologies

Richard Bayles. (RB)

## 2. Minutes of meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Accepted as a true record.

Proposed PT. Seconded DR.

## 3. Matters arising

Those relating to RB were left to our next meeting.

- a. Signs are being redone by Kevin the printer to correct the spelling error.
- b. LCC have accepted liability for the maintenance of the Bus stop wall.
- c. Miss Rose's Garden sign is up. Isla Davies paid for this. Thanks, given to Isla. It was agreed to offer £100 to Isla Davies for the purchase of new plants and flowers for the garden.
- d. No news from the University re the wildlife survey.
- e. Allotment. It was agreed that the autumn would be a better time to dig the allotment and would give us time to prepare a plan for phase 2 of its development. In the meantime, RB is looking at putting up a more robust gate at the entrance. We could use a metal detector to help with clearing any rusty metal from the area. Agreed that currently we should not permit public access to the site whilst it is being prepared and checked. The dead hedge will be completed in the autumn when there are materials readily available.
- f. Performance area. The contractor has been instructed to commence phase 1 of the improvements to the performance area. The topiary is being trimmed at a cost of around £40.
- g. Steps. A budget of £500 was approved for the purchase of materials (self-compacting gravel, wood, screws) for the renovation of the steps on the Eastern boundary.

## 4. Trustee reappointment

Alison Griffiths was unanimously reappointed for a further term as a trustee.

## 5. Open Day de brief

MM outlined a summary of the day. It was all agreed that the Day went really well and thanks were expressed to MM for all her help, time and skill.

MM reported that all the stallholders were happy and enjoyed the event. In particular the Red Box stall were very complimentary.

The steampunk contingent all enjoyed the day and are keen to attend another.

The musical performances went down very well at the performance area. The tarpaulin shading erected by DR worked well for families with young children.

The children's area in the herb garden was particularly popular.

It was agreed the level of helpers /stewards was about right (around 10). MM was appreciative of the help given by the West End residents association (WERA). Thanks were given to the photographer and to John the Poet for helping the day run smoothly.

For next year it was felt that a choir in the Orchard was not a good idea, that we could use water containers in the herb garden for refreshment, and maybe to hold the event on a Sunday as opposed to a Saturday as the parking would be better. We should have more direction signs at the entrances and maybe encourage the stall holders to offer raffle prizes. We should offer vegan and gluten free cake options as well.

There were no problems with first aid. Only one person who required a plaster. The one toilet worked well and was sufficient.

For next year MM will prepare a list of all the contact numbers for the stall holders and artistes who came this year. She was happy to be involved in helping next year but didn't want to take on overall responsibility for the event. It was suggested that we might approach the University to see if they have anyone in their Event Management course who might be interested in co ordinating the event.

## **6. Park Picnic**

MM suggested that might hold another event in the autumn, namely a park Picnic where people could bring a blanket and have a picnic and, if they wished, bring unwanted items to offer for sale (like a "yard sale"). It was agreed to try this this year on the 20<sup>th</sup> August between 12noon to 3 pm. MM offered to be first aider as DR will be away. MM will work the idea up and, in the meantime, we should put it in our diaries.

## **7.Next meeting**

To be arranged once RB is back.