

Friends of Hillside Gardens

MEETING

21st January 19

Present

Nigel Duckers – Minutes Secretary

Rosena Skeete – Secretary

Tom Stanbury - Chair

Tony Emerson

Andreas Kappes

Martin Goffe

Dino Skeete

June Hyde

Apologies

Martin Warry

Cllr Iain Simpson

Cllr Rezina Chowdury

Marie O'Connor

Cllr Liz Atkins

1	Election of Officers The Minutes Secretary stood in for the election of the Chair. Tom Stanbury was Proposed by Martin Goffe and Seconded by June Hyde. Tom was elected unopposed by a show of hands, with all in favour. On behalf of the Friends ND congratulated TS on his election, welcomed him to the Chair and assured him of our support.
2	Apologies Apologies were reported, as above.
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
4	Section 106 TS reported on the Steering Group meeting with Rob Kelly and on a subsequent email update as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions have begun with two landscape architects (Sarah Grierson of Beckett Company and Joe Todd at Turkington Martin) with a view to developing a scope/brief to make the entrances more attractive, remove hazards, improve levels, horticultural strategy etc). RK hopes for an initial meeting in January re scope and fees. - Council contractors CVU are being met in regard to repair/rebuilding of the retaining wall above the tennis court/muga and in regard to other structural elements. - Engie, our facilities management contractor, has been asked to expand the scope of a previous quote to refurbish the toilet block/old park-keeper's office - Stakeholders are being met with <p>It is proposed to split the money 4 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General parks infrastructure: play area, paving, railings, hard landscaping, furniture, event utilities, arboriculture etc - Buildings: bringing into full use - Sports facility upgrade: capital investment in improved tennis courts, football surface and MUGA - Entrances and approaches <p>At present it is estimated that each of these would benefit from approx. £100k of expenditure. However, prices and allocation will be refined following pricing etc; but this is a starting point.</p> <p>DS reported on research he has done into tennis surfaces; in particular porous acrylic and artificial clay. Within the context of running a tennis club he would like to see a high-spec surface, with light and possibly a gate entry system. There was discussion around this with some member concerned about maintenance and others keen to maintain equality of access. DS mentioned the need to create revenue for future maintenance, ND that retaining revenue would have to be negotiated with Lambeth, TE suggested a pricing structure could have free use at certain times, AK and JE were keen to avoid exclusivity.</p> <p>The Section 106 Steering Committee next meets with RK, 5th Feb and will report back to the Friends on progress.</p>
5	<p>Palace Road Nature Gardens</p> <p>In the absence of Gerry and Stewart, TS reported on PRNG, where improvement works are well underway; with completion planned for the Summer and a launch then with performance and music. Tom had been on site and helped out around the pond; he recommended the experience and others to visit and join in. He is keen to encourage wider community participation and will contact Rob Johnson at the Palace Road Estate Residents Committee. AK also agreed to publicise via our mailing list and possibly to link between PRNG Facebook – where there are reports and updates – and the website. It was agreed that we would set a date for an event to encourage visitors and TS will lead on that and liaise with GMCA.</p>
6	<p>Art in the Park</p> <p>There was little to report but TS will contact GMCA to see who made the mural in the PRNG with a view to possible commission at HG.</p>

7	<p>Tennis</p> <p>DS and RS reported on Serious about Tennis; the community club they run, which has registered with the LTA. Their goals for the year are to: improve facilities, continue to encourage wider participation, develop funding. Recent achievement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entering teams into the Surrey League - Hosting and Coaching with Lambeth Juniors - Applying for equipment - Plans for a Social Tennis programme on Weds evenings from April. There was some discussion of what evening would be best, not only for newcomers but for members of other clubs also. <p>A treasurer is still being sought, if anyone knows of anyone...and the Sports Day will coincide with the Great British Tennis weekend on 18/19 May.</p>
8	<p>Allotment</p> <p>MG reported on the allotments; starting by noting that temperatures were still too low for germination! There is £160 in the allotment account and, after some discussion it was agreed to raise the annual subscription from £20 to £25; still a very 'good deal'. MG had himself removed some smaller branches of cut down trees dumped at the entrance; and TS has reported this waste to LC. MG has spoken to Cllr Iain Simpson, asking him to chivvy Ian Boulton for promised railway sleepers. Emails have been exchanged to try to get a water leak fixed at the back of the toilet block/old park keeper's office. ND suggested that the allotment group input to the Section 106 Steering Group on any ideas they may have for that building.</p>
9	<p>Gardening</p> <p>Tom would like to revive the gardening group for example, dead heading roses in season, replanting the planters, planting bulbs (which are available for free). He intends to liaise with PRNG and begin to publicise the initiative.</p>
10	<p>Sports Day</p> <p>Sports Day will be modelled on last year and planned by TE, RS, TS, with AK being invited to join the sub-committee. There was some discussion of widening the appeal with, for example, an ice-cream van, face-painting, the participation of the childrens' centre etc and JE and others were keen to see this happen.</p>
11	<p>Football</p> <p>TE and TS are planning to run a football club for kids in the Easter Holidays, with the involvement of Dom and Morris from Furzedown. There may also be an outing to Dulwich Hamlet on the Bank Holiday Monday. Provisional dates are: 6/13/20 April.</p>
12	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DS is researching match-funding for Section 106 tennis upgrade - DS will replace the perspex on the noticeboard and TS will coordinate a poster, with graphic design from AK, with a calendar of sports and events happening in the park over the Spring and Summer - RS will be asked to check that the Trustee appointments are up-to-date

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- TS will establish a protocol with Hannah Nunn (Treasurer) to allow for sole signatory of cheques/authorisation of BACS payments for smaller amounts, with email or other approval from ND or TS for larger payments
13	DONM 4 th March 19