**FRIENDS OF LORDSHIP REC**

**Notes of Monthly Meeting 5th September 2021, at the Hub**

**PRESENT:** Dan, Alyson, Catherine Collingborn, Joan Curtis, Sally Haywill, Caroline Jepson (minutes), Dave Morris, Liz, Nina, Louise, Fiona, Claire, Joanna Yeung **APOLOGIES**: Gary, Collette, Benjamin

**Judith Hanna**.Before the meeting began Alyson reported that Judith Hanna, a stalwart of Haringey Green Gardening and Friends of Bruce Castle was in a hospice. A card from us was circulated. (We are sad to report that Judith’s death was reported the following day).

**Notes of monthly meeting held on 1st August:** Agreed as accurate

**FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW - Saturday 11th September.**

Joan reported that arrangements and publicity were going well, but more volunteers were needed on the day, particularly to help set up gazebos and stalls and clear away after 5.00 pm. Several people present volunteered and the Lordship Litterpickers would be asked to help tidy up at the end. (Update: The event went really well!)

**YOUTH VOLUNTEERING IN THE REC WITH TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR FOUNDATION.**

Joanna Yeung from Tottenham Hotspur Foundation (Joanna also coordinates a Friends group for Weirhall Road Community Open Space) attended the meeting to discuss opportunities for youth volunteering in the Rec through two different projects.

**National Citizens Service:** THF helps deliver this national scheme for 16 and 17 year old to engage them in out of school activities which will develop vocational skills. Under the NCS scheme, 15 young people spent a successful day in August working in Harmony Gardens. Joanna and Sophia Bowes of THF have already asked if we can accommodate further youth volunteer placements in September. Some of the young people are interested in opportunities for volunteering in sports projects. Dave and Dan will put Joanna in touch with groups organising sports in the Rec. Meanwhile Catherine offered to host a 5 hour volunteering session in the woodland.

**Green-Ambassadors Project:** Joanna has managed to get a grant of £3000 to fund a project, for 13 – 24 year olds to raise the awareness of the international climate change COP26 meeting in November in Glasgow - <https://ukcop26.org/>

The funds are to resource local young people’s effort in taking social action connected with climate change issues, between September and November only.  Joanna is looking for a project that the young people can direct themselves, e.g. organizing an event, such as Apple Day, or drawing up a plan to develop a green space. Joan suggested Joanna get in touch with Tom from Homes for Haringey regarding a piece of unused land on Broadwater Farm estate. It was agreed that a separate meeting was needed for more detailed discussion.

**GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED in the Development of the Rec/Friends**

The Hub, laid on a variety of **activities for young people over the Summer holidays**, such as Dance, Parkour and Self-defence with varying degrees of participation. The People Need Parks programme also included activities for young people in the Rec such as Rollerskating. But we missed the opportunity this presented to engage with young people and parents about other activities and the community’s role in managing the Rec. We need to think about ways of consulting and connecting with young people. Could we involve young people in designing communications aimed at young people –perhaps a leaflet - or in social media used by younger people. When engaging with young people we need to be aware of safety issues and security of their information. Unlike adults there are issues regarding their contact details. We need to spread information through groups already working with young people.

Dan pointed out that younger people use the **Skateboard area** around the Shell Theatre, but this area feels unconnected with the Hub and therefore with the information and the community activity and meetings taking place there.

**Skateboard area:** Dan would like to see a separate meeting to look at the skateboard area in detail and how to promote and care for it. The skateboard area needs a noticeboard, (the Lordship Rec Users Forum has a general request out for more noticeboards for the Loop Track, the Orchard and the Hub). Next year, 2022 will be the 90TH Anniversary of the Shell Theatre and the 10th anniversary of the Restoration of the Rec – two great opportunities for promotion throughout the year. Dan will draft up a proposal for the next meeting.

**Noticeboards:** Nina noted that the noticeboards are really being underused. A lot of the group activities being held in the Rec are not being included in the noticeboards, but tend to be advertised on Facebook etc. We need to make contact with all the park’s dedicated user groups and explain how they can leave information in the Hub for Nina to pick up and put in the noticeboards. It would be good if the Hub’s monthly programmes are resumed and then those could go up.

**FRIENDS COMMUNICATIONS**

There had been an encouraging response to the new Volunteering Questionnaire and two new volunteers had joined the previous day’s Woodland group. Caroline was writing to everyone who completed the questionnaire.A couple of new people said they wished to join our coordination group sohave been added to our core group e-list.

Dave had combined the new organisational flow chart, the history text and timeline, and the Volunteer map into a new Handout.

**PARK MAINTENANCE:**

Dave would organise a date for a Practical Co-ordination Meeting (with park staff and other stakeholders). ( Update: The next one is 15th September.)

BMX Loop Track:Work would start on 7th September to make intermediate repairs to the surface of the track – the funds had been raised by Paul Wheeler and the Tottenham BMX Club, so the track would be out of action for a few days – a message had gone on Facebook. Dan raised the need to have further discussions on the future use of the Loop Track and longer term surfaces/maintenance/uses.

Millenium Oak Circle infested with Oak Processionary Moth. Catherine advised everyone to take heed of the fences, now surrounding the whole circle and the warning notices. The barriers are rather flimsy, and Catherine had had to put them upright again and had seen the caterpillars. These are harmful to humans but do not harm the trees. She has emailed Alex Fraser the Tree Officer to ask when it is likely to be treated.

Trees for Cities Corporate Volunteering: It is anticipated that the corporate volunteering will start again in October (TfC and the Friends need a planning meeting to prepare, provisionally set for 16th Sept). In reponse to Nina’s query as to whether TfC volunteers would carry out tasks that are not connected with tree care and maintenance such as painting the bottom of the lampposts, it was confirmed that they did do painting in the past. Dave/Catherine to explore with TfC what range of tasks would be considered.

**FRIENDS PROJECT UPDATES**

Woodland group.Two work sessions will be held in September. New pond is working well and willows have rooted – Catherine will send photo to Joan for the Facebook.

Moselle River. As agreed at the last meeting, Caroline had circulated notes of the onsite meeting held on 21st July and this had prompted action on setting up a meeting with the contractors, Ebsford, to take place on 9th September.

Joan suggested that the Friends organise a day on issues around urban rivers next year. Caroline would speak to John Miles from Haringey Rivers Forum about this suggestion. Note: London Rivers Week is at the end of October

Orchard: Sally passed around some of the pears picked from the orchard. There had been a very good crop. The apples and plums all got picked by members of the public with some branches broken, so Sally took decision to pick the pears to avoid damage to trees. Sally would not be putting on Apple Day this year but will aim to organise the Wassail in January. This year has been good weather for young trees, but Sally has accepted that generally the central and eastern parts of the orchard are too boggy for trees to thrive. Volunteering has continued on Thursdays and Sundays. Sally meets onsite with people who express an interest in Orchard volunteering, to explain what is involved and then adds them to the orchard email if they are still interested.

Lake: No updates yet following onsite meeting with Annabel Foskett (Haringey Conservation Officer) – Joan to chase up.

Conservation Action Plans:Joan, Sally, Catherine, Ruth and Caroline have now submitted all information requested by Helena Taylor at Haringey TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) for her to complete a Lordship Rec Conservation Action Plan.

**FINANCE** Dave will write to all the groups on the Lordship Rec Users Forum list to remind them that the Small Grants scheme for parks is open again and that because of leftover Lottery funding, Lordship Rec can make more applications than other parks. (Update: Dave has done so). Any application relating to Lordship Rec needs to go the LRUF for approval before it can be submitted to Haringey.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**‘Together’** (organised by Police and other local services) on 25th September – the Friends and possibly the Hub will have a stall. Dave has requested some help with this.

**Hub AGM** on 16th October, 1.30-2.30pm as part of a Community Day 11-3pm.

**Next Friends Monthly Meeting**: Sunday 3rd October, start 2 pm.