

## **FRIENDS OF LORDSHIP REC: Notes of Monthly meeting: 3rd October 2021**

**PRESENT:** Dan, Caroline Jepson, Dave Morris, Nina Benjamin, Sally, Helena Taylor (TCV)      **APOLOGIES:** Alyson, Joan Curtis, Catherine, Jonty,

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** on 5th September: Were agreed as correct

**UPDATES** following on from last meeting:

- The annual Tottenham Flower and Produce Show was a great success with lots of entries and a good atmosphere, which bodes well for holding the event again next year. Well done all who helped!
- Disappointingly, the proposed volunteering projects engaging young people, organised through Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, will now not be taken forward in Lordship Rec.
- The BMX track has been successfully resurfaced. Well done Paul (Tottenham Bike Club) and Jeffrey from the Council.
- The Oak Circle has been treated for Oak Processionary Moth. The Park staff have been instructed to take down the barriers that were put up.

### **FRIENDS PROJECTS**

**Woodland:** Catherine had submitted a written report to the meeting in her absence. She will be organising two Friends' volunteer sessions in October, as the volunteer sessions by Trees for Cities, and Tottenham Hotspur Foundation have been cancelled. She was waiting to hear if the Woodland would receive the Green Flag Community Award *Update: It has, with a great report from the Judge!*

**Moselle in the Rec:** Caroline reported on the online meeting on 9th September between her, Chris Patterson the Haringey Parks Project Officer, John from Haringey Rivers Forum (HRF), and Ebsford the contractors. Ebsford reported that their testing of the water in August had shown a big improvement in water quality. Friends and HRF have pressed for testing to continue, and for results to be put into a consistent format, held centrally by Haringey and shared with all stakeholders. Other points arising from the meeting were that, as part of the Oct/Nov clearance of the channel, Ebsford would clear eastern grille and dispose of the material off site (needs to be tested first). Community volunteer training would go ahead next year as part of Ebsford's contract, so that volunteers can contribute to keeping channel clear and vegetation manageable. Caroline explained that the Haringey Rivers Forum will be developing a volunteer Water Squad to work throughout the Borough. Members of HRF have passed accredited training with Thames 21 and will be able to ensure any volunteer workdays organised under their name. It will be advantageous to both groups for volunteer workdays on the Moselle Brook to be organised by HRF in conjunction with the Friends.

**Orchard:** Sally has been liaising with Alex Fraser, Haringey Tree Officer, and Jonty who would like to plant a commemorative tree in the Orchard. The local authority has a scheme for commemorative benches in parks, but (we believed) not for trees so this needed special approval (which we got). A native tree in a suitable place will be planted. *Update: We have since found out there is a commemorative tree scheme, which has recently been incorporated in a Trees For Streets initiative.*

**Shell Theatre and the new Shell Performing Arts Collective Team (SPAC)** Dan reported on the very exciting news that he and Benjamin (who organised the Haringey Fringe Festival in August) have joined up with Jackie and Mark to reactivate SPAC and its aim of getting the Shell Theatre better used as a performing arts venue, with improved facilities and a new and ambitious programme of usage by the community. They have been developing contacts with a very wide range of arts and sports organisations to promote the venue, and are hoping to create a year of events in 2022, which will be the Shell's 90th anniversary. They have produced a short written proposal, setting out the Goals, Means and Way Forward, which is attached to the end of these minutes. Dan was reminded that SPAC could apply to the People Need Parks Programme and that the Friends Facebook can be used to

promote the reinvigorated SPAC. One of SPAC's first proposed jobs would be to repaint the Shell Theatre, and Dan was trying to establish from the archives if its original colours had been yellow and green so this might be the possible basis for a colour scheme. The Friends are grateful to Dan and the SPAC team for their hard work in developing this new vision for this key and underused facility.

**Trees for Cities:** Unfortunately, the restart of the corporate volunteering under the Friends agreement with TfC has been delayed at the request of TfC and the planning meeting has been put on hold for the time being. Georgina, our previous contact at TfC, has moved to a new scheme, Trees for Streets, which is also involved in planting trees in parks. Also Alex Fraser for the Council is running a separate 'Urban Forest' scheme with TfC and contacted us with a proposal to plant more trees in the northern part of the Rec. Dave and Sally are considering this proposal taking in account the need to ensure the trees are cared for. *Update: We replied with some reservations, but for maybe a small number of extra trees as long as TfC can maintain them as we are at full capacity.*

**Conservation Action Plans:** Helena Taylor from Haringey TCV is finalising a first draft Conservation Action Plan covering Lordship Rec, based on a walkabout with us and extensive input from all our area coordinators around the Rec. Those Friends active in managing areas in the Rec will be arranging a meeting with her. *Update: We met at 2pm on October 26<sup>th</sup> and had a very detailed discussion about the first draft she had circulated that morning. Helena will revise the draft CAP and meet up with us again.* Once the CAP is finalised, then biodiversity in the Rec and the CAP could be a theme for a monthly meeting. Dave reported that Annabel Foskett, Haringey's Conservation Officer had presented to the Friends of Parks Forum about the formal review of **Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)** taking place in the Borough. Consultants MKA Ecology hope to complete their review of the current fifty nine (59) SINC sites by the end of October. We are hoping (and expecting) that Lordship Rec may achieve a SINC of Borough wide importance rather than local importance. MKA are looking at the information held by Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL), and we know this is inadequate and very out of date. Dave will chase up to ensure the consultants received all the Rec biodiversity reports we had given to Annabel and GiGL.

**Harmony Gardens:** A positive meeting has taken place between the Friends of Harmony Gardens, Fusion and Haringey Council to discuss providing FoHG with a new lease, which is necessary for HG to apply for funding.

**Community Day on 25th September** (organised by the Police and other services): Seemed to go very well with good attendance of families. The Friends had a stall and collected names for the Friends & Hub mailing lists.

**PARK MAINTENANCE Noticeboards:** Nina reported that One of the noticeboards has slipped (or been pushed) down the poles and is now at a very low height. Nina or Dave will report to park staff to see if they can help push it back up. *Update – now remedied*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Hub AGM and Community Day:** Will be held on 16th October and as well as the AGM will have a film show and showcase the groups using the Hub via taster sessions.. Membership of the Hub Co-op is being encouraged to enable more people to get involved in the running of the building.
- **Visit from Friends of West Ham Park:** Dave is arranging for this group to visit the Rec as they are looking to regenerate their park with a community building and would like to get our advice and support. We can learn from them too. He will circulate the date and everyone is welcome to join in.
- **Date of next meeting:** 7th November, 2pm at Hub