

FRIENDS OF LORDSHIP REC: Notes of Monthly Meeting: Sunday 5th June 2022

Present: Dan B., Alyson B, Catherine C, Joan Curtis, Caroline Jepson, Dave Morris, Sally H. (first half), Nina P.(second half)

Apologies: Louise R., Violet

Minutes of monthly meeting on Sunday 1st May: Agreed as an accurate record

Updates on Events and Projects:

People Need Parks event, organised by Haringey Council and community groups (including Lordship Sports and Activities Consortium) to launch the 2022 PNP programme, had been held in the Rec on the previous day, 4th June. All agreed it had been a very successful event with a great atmosphere. The Friends ran an information stall which resulted in 18 new sign-ups to the mailing list. Joan reported that there had also been many sign-ups to the Friends Facebook following the event.

Woodland Group: Damage had occurred to trees and the wooden boards lining the path by vehicles driving through the wood.. At least half the boards on the main path had been damaged and splintered so volunteers had removed the damaged boards as they were a potential risk.. A witness had come forward, unprompted, to state that contractors working in the Rec had caused the damage. This has been reported to Chris Poore, Parks Zonal Officer and he would be handling this matter. Chris Poore, joined by Caroline, Catherine and Dave would be joining a walkabout with the contractor on 7th June to look at snagging. Catherine had asked Mat at Haringey Conservation Volunteers (TCV Haringey) to estimate a cost for replacing the boards and for TCV to undertake the repair work. Mat's estimate amounted to £5,000 so the damage is significant.

Two volunteers days would take place in the Woodland in June. On 9th June, TCV would be working on the stream, ponds and dogwood. On 11th June the Friends Woodland Group would be working on ivy removal, sightlines and litterpicking.

As the path running east/west down the hill from Higham road entrance has been upgraded (see Maintenance section below), a park user had suggested that there should be a notice or bollard at the junction of the path through the woodland where it meets the upgraded path as a new path may encourage cyclists, runners etc to be moving faster down the hill. After discussion, it was agreed that the Friends' stance generally was that there should be no unnecessary notices, or hardware in the Rec. However, this will be raised with the Parks Department at the Practical Co-ordination meeting.

Orchard: The grass is very long this year! Sally has reduced the regular volunteer sessions due to other demands on her time so she is primarily working with Katherine on Thursdays to keep things ticking over. To help out, the Litterpicking group will start covering the Orchard.

Litterpicking Group: Caroline thanks Eddie for covering the sessions while she was away. The group is strong with core regulars and new volunteers coming forward. It always feels worthwhile.

Lake: As yet, Joan has not received the results of the silt survey from Annabel Foskett, Haringey Conservation Officer. Joan would chase up. Due to the dry weather, the water level in the Lake is extremely low. Joan would show Caroline how to top the water levels up and check whether this could be done without reducing the water supply to the Hub. (Update information note: We have confirmed that the Lake can be topped up without affecting the water pressure to the Hub). Joan and Caroline would arrange a work session to weed the gabions where people sit, remove thistles from the Lake edges and mend the chicken wire on the dipping platform.

Moselle Brooke: The quality of the water appears to have declined, often appearing milky. However, the contractor's test results are showing an improvement in the quality of the water. The contractors are returning on 7th July, when it is planned that Caroline and John Miles from Haringey Rivers Forum will observe the contractors and the tasks undertaken, in order to start planning the development of volunteers working in the channel under the umbrella of Thames21.

Shell Theatre: Dan reported on progress to the project to repaint the Shell Theatre, which should be completed by 21st June. The Surveyor had completed his drawings and all regulations had been checked out. Dulux has donated the paint and they will also throw in a Dulux apprentice to help! Cami Vallata, the mural artist may also bring more pairs of hands to help. They will be using a two tier painter's tower which will be stored overnight in the yard. David Sherrington, the key Haringey officer covering Broadwater Farm is very supportive of the project. The Shell Performing Arts Collective (SPAC) now have a website domain to develop. They have been networking widely including with the Music Venue Trust; Alan Swain concerning local history; and have been contacted by the Bernie Grant Arts Centre who are keen to find an outdoor venue, so lots of potential for continuing collaboration.

Skatepark: Dan will also join the walkabout with the contractors as he is not happy with the repairs carried out to the skatepark.

Harmony Gardens: HG had a very successful involvement with the People Need Parks events, running garden workshops, holding an open day and a stall selling plants. They now run sessions on Saturdays and have recruited a new worker until November to run afterschool activities.

Lordship Rec Conservation Action Plan. Dave handed out copies of the final version which includes a schedule of the role of different organisations in providing conservation focussed maintenance in different areas in the Rec. The Conservation Action Plan will be available on the Friends website.

New and Forthcoming Developments and Events

Lordship Sustainability Network/Flower and Produce Show will go ahead on 10th September. Joan has successfully raised money from the Lottery to make this a substantial event, for which she was thanked. Joan will also do additional fundraising to make sure the event is as large as possible. Please spread the word and contribute any ideas related to sustainability for workshops, speakers, activities.

Luke Howard celebration weekend: Tottenham Clouds are running the next planning meeting on Sunday 12th June to coordinate the events planned in November, new clouds interpretation boards (being designed by Joan) and the new Hub Weather Station. Tottenham Clouds do not have their own bank account, and may need to use the Friends bank account to receive money raised from grant applications. This is legitimate as long as it is transparent and funders understand the arrangement but the details do need to be worked out between the Friends and Tottenham Clouds (and any funders).

Developing a Walking groups leaflet: This has still to be progressed, but the meeting discussed whether regular free exercise classes taking place in the Rec should also be included. It was agreed that they should. There are also exercise classes taking place in the Rec for which participants are charged. Haringey Council should be informed about these classes, as the fee paid by the organiser to the Council is then, we believe, allocated to that park's budget.

ParkRun. The Lordship Rec Park Run is ready to go, once sufficient volunteers to steward the event are recruited. The aim is to start in July/August.

Films at the Hub: Joan had organised at the Hub a very successful showing of 'Hostile' (about the hostile environment policy by the Home Office towards migrants). The film, 'McLibel', featuring our chair Dave and former Rec gardener Helen, will be shown on 24th June. In August, it is being considered to show a film about life on Broadwater Farm in the late 1980s, about the Youth Association and featuring Clasford Stirling. Films about climate change, such as Age of Stupid could also be shown to co-incide with the Luke Howard weekend. Any suggestions welcome.

Maintenance Issues

Practical Co-ordination Meeting on 7th June. Joan was preparing a list of maintenance concerns to send to Chris Poore before the meeting. The meeting would be followed by a walkabout with the contractor to look at snagging. The standard of construction work on the path from Higham Road entrance to the Woodland was a major concern as the stones seemed too large, the surface not cambered and inadequate French drain/drainage work undertaken. The leaking water drain which was badly affecting the entrance from Walpole Road was also causing a serious problem for people using that entrance (as well as loss of water!). Caroline had been told that the delay in fixing the leak was because nobody had been able to find where

to turn off the water. The Oak Circle is badly affected again by Oak processionary moth. The tape being used to deter people needs to be stronger and regularly fixed by park staff and clearer notices are required.

Funding for interpretation boards will also be raised with Chris Poore as he has accepted that interpretation boards in parks are assets which therefore require maintenance/replacement.

Any Other Business: Nina reminded the meeting that some time ago a local person had offered to construct a bug hotel somewhere in the Rec, but this seems to have fallen off the agenda. If anyone could remember who the contact was then this idea could be taken up again.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 3rd July