

Friends of Lordship Rec – Monthly meeting – 5th May 2024

Present: Caroline Jepson, Dave Morris, Joan Curtis, Sally Haywell, Sara Hall

Apologies: Mike Downs, Catherine Collingborn

Minutes of last meeting held on April 7th: Agreed.

Corporate Volunteering opportunity with Mace:

- Caroline will consult with the various activity coordinators one to one. Together they will consider how best to and ensure helpful and manageable collaborations with Mace....and then move on to filling out the forms.
- It was agreed that it's best to start with small projects so as to build good relations with Mace before committing to anything more ambitious.
- We aim to provide Mace with a few different volunteering options for them to offer their clients. Hopefully they will take us up on some of them.
- Dave spoke with TCV – they are happy to support us with larger sessions. TCV's going rate that they charge companies is £60 per person per event.

FRIENDS' PROJECT REPORTS

Orchard and Meadows.

- Grass has been mown. Baby trees have been mulched.
- Regular volunteering sessions have been established on the 1st Saturday of every month.
- An exhibition about the BioBlitz event, held last June, is due to open at the Hub on 25th May. Sally is applying to Tottenham Grammar School Foundation for funding for expenses incurred. [Update: Grant now confirmed].

Lake:

- No news yet re funding from the Environment Agency for the island.
- Caroline has mended the waders. They have yet to be tested in the water.
- There is some money left over from a previous grant. It was suggested that perhaps it could be spent on repairing (or renewing?) the small floating islands.
- There could possibly be a lake working party day on the 5th Wednesday in May.
- Path cracks on the North side of the lake need looking at asap.

Moselle Brook:

- Haringey council have yet to confirm future funding for Thames 21 support at volunteering sessions.

- The session on 20th April went ahead. John and Eddie did extra clearance.
- Caroline has started testing water quality regularly for phosphate and ammonia. The results will be logged with Thames 21.
- A Moselle working party day is planned for June 14th. It will be at the Hub. All key stakeholders will be invited to discuss scoping, strategy, and technical issues. (Invitation only)
- Hundreds of Willow tree seedlings are taking root in various places including the main Moselle channel. Cassandra from TVC has done a survey and put forward a proposal to remove many and coppice some of them – not a total blitz. Sally questioned aspects of this plan. Caroline will discuss it with Cassandra to help agree a plan of action.

Woodland:

- 14th April volunteer session worked on the small stream and spread wood chipping on the pathway. They also cleared away remnants from the encampment.
- 16th April TCV session cleared brambles and created a beetle loggery.
- Verbal feedback on the dead hedges has been positive.
- More woodland bulbs are needed. Sally advised against buying non-organic bulbs that don't propagate so well.

Flower and produce show:

- A planning meeting was well attended by a wide variety of groups wanting to help.
- Still needs more funding. Growing in Haringey have offered £1000. Haringey People Need Parks offer max £1000 for each park. Joan suggested that if Lottery funding comes through we could accept less from the People Need parks fund – or perhaps allocate it to something else. [Update: £9,800 from Lottery confirmed]
- We are looking to involve projects and people who are self-sufficient such as: Jim doing a Dogs Show, Haringey Cycling Campaign bike ride, Tottenham Clouds activity, green zone etc.
- Joan is drafting a letter of appeal for support from local shops. Zelda will help.
- Next planning meeting is 22nd May, 6.30pm at the Hub.

Misc. activities

- Surveys – Small birders group now active.
- Green Action group has linked with the Right to Food Campaign. 20 people attended an event at the Hub on 28th April. There were Films, Speakers, Quiz and Discussions. Successful.

Financial Matters:

- The Hub have launched a crowd funding appeal to support the many unfunded public activities that take place at the Hub.
- Previous sources of funding are shrinking – there is a need to look for other sources.
- Sally is applying to Tottenham Grammar for £472 for the exhibition about last year's Biodiversity day.
- Hub – the Hub put in an 'expression of interest' to the Lottery Partnerships Fund for a paid post for a volunteer coordinator for Hub and park – to help develop our 'Lordship village'.

Parks Maintenance:

- Chris Poore, the council repairs officer for the Rec, is due to return in June.
- Hazel hedging – we need to consider the pros and cons of Hedging vs Coppicing at the top of the hill.
- Rubbish within the hazel hedge needs clearing.
- Encampments have been cleared. Future encampments need to be reported swiftly to avoid court procedures. Facebook announcements proposed to keep people informed of processes gone through re any future encampments.
- Broken branches remain in encampment areas. Can the Orchard group make "healthy cuts" on the broken branches?
- Barbeques – will be an issue again in summer time. How can they be prevented from causing damage?

Rockstone Bikes:

Opening times appear to be flexible. It was suggested that we ask them which days they can commit to being open so that it can be publicised on Facebook.

FLR Annual General Meeting:

Dates have yet to be decided. June will not be possible.

Next Monthly meeting:

June 2nd.