

Friends of Lordship Rec Monthly meeting – 7th July 2024

Present: Dave Morris (facilitated), Joan Curtis, Nina, Sara Hall (took notes)

Apologies: Mike, Catherine, Sally, Caroline, Chuku

1. Friends working groups - reports

Orchard

- 3 more volunteers have arrived via Eventbrite.
- Regular Thursday sessions continue. Next session August 3rd.
- Woodchip pile is running low and becoming overgrown – problematic. Needs some management – maybe someone from the orchard group might be able to chase this up? Does it need to be re-stocked?

Lake

- The Monday volunteer group is working well. They have been cutting vegetation and pulling bad stuff out of the lake.
- Rubbish pulled out of the lake needs to be put in the designated rubbish area to the left-hand side of the yard behind the Shell.
- Annabel still trying to get some funding for much needed works on the island

River

- Regular volunteering sessions continue to keep the channel clear and flowing.
- Future Council funding for Thames 21 to support us, still unknown.

Woodland

- On June 8th volunteers cut back vegetation and did litter picking.
- Next volunteering session will be Sat 13th July.
- Alex Goodyear has been informed about branches left after trees around the phone mast on the edge of the wood were cut back
- Tottenham Trees prepared a very informative Lordship Rec history walk for Women and Girls. Can we request a paper copy of the info for display and distribution from the hub?
- A Green Flag has been awarded to the woodland again! A couple of the working group will be going to the award ceremony.

Flower and Produce Festival

- Preparations are going well – on track. Regular open meetings have been happening. £10k lottery funding and £1k 'Growing-In-Haringey' funding secured.
- More people and activities are getting involved, including for the first time a bike ride, giant snakes-and-ladders, wheelytots sessions, cloud appreciation activities, free food giveaway, some interesting stalls (eg beehive/honey), and much more.

- The actual Show's prep/setup time proposed to start a bit later this year – from 9.00 to 11.00am.

2. Improvements and Maintenance

Chess Table

- Concrete chess table/chairs will be installed soon by the Council by outdoor gym.

Maintenance

- There was a Lordship Rec Users Forum meeting (mainly Friends reps and council maintenance officers) in mid June to run through all the latest issues. Dave updated the rolling bulletin for all the outstanding repairs – progress has been slow as the key officer (Chris) has been unwell, the Council are understaffed and have had to make even more budget cuts again this year.
- Many issues are urgent and some are long standing.
- The council plan to install the Changing Places building by the Hub in the autumn. It might make sense to do the Water Fountain at the same time – but this means another summer with no water fountain. Dave will contact Kristie to get an update on the latest situation and see if she can get a quote for the water fountain if it can be done separately or not.

3. Finances

- £700 granted by the Council for the Flower and Produce Festival has been agreed to be re-allocated to our Wassail, Open Shell event (free food), Wild flower bulbs for the woodland, some waders for women, and some more litter picking hoops.
- As stated above Joan was successful in getting other funding for the Festival.
- No further news yet on the proposed corporate volunteering opportunity with MACE to help us with work and funding.

4. Coming events

- **Benjamin Zephania** - commemoration/celebration set for October 3rd (National Poetry Day). Joan, Dave and Clasford coordinating.
- **Open Shell and Blockorama** Good to see events happening in the Shell and main field this summer, coordinated by members of the Shell Performing Arts Collective.
- **Broadwater Centre users group** – now that the Centre is returning to Council control they have agreed that users groups should be involved in the running of it. Meeting planned for Monday 15th July – Friends reps to attend.
- **Regular activities continue** - our volunteering sessions, other groups' walks etc, lots of stuff at the Hub.
- **Our AGM** - Best left till after the Flower and Produce show. Proposed date: 13th October.