

Friends of Lordship Rec – Monthly meeting 5th Oct 2025

Present: Caroline, Sally, Nina, Sara, Liam, Joan, Alyson, Catherine,

Apologies: Dave. (Joan had to leave after 20 mins.)

Minutes of last meeting: Agreed as accurate. (We hadn't all read them and we didn't have paper copies in the meeting. People were able to scan read them on their phones.)

Orchard Report:

- The Flower and Produce Festival tour of the orchard went very well. 8 - 12 people took part.
- The last volunteering session included 2 new people who had attended the tour.
- Recent activities: more mulching, cutting back brambles (Colin and Marius), and paths have been mowed.
- New logs for sitting on have been used – (evidenced by left litter.)
- Sally plans to source and plant some French apple trees that may be more resilient to climate change than our current trees.
- Worm survey is scheduled for Tuesday October 14th.
- Wassail set for Sunday January 11th.
- Money available for pruning and coppicing must be used before February. (end or beginning?)
- All trees have survived the summer heat. One young volunteer has been watering them regularly and has been naming them. (One named Greg!)

Woodland Report:

- Last months volunteering session was a small one since it clashed with the flower and produce show. Focus was on digging out ponds and stream.
- Liam has produced a very attractive A4 poster to recruit new volunteers.
- Woodland flowers - Wood Anemones were the most successful out of all the varieties of bulbs planted last year. The hunt is on for more native species / genuine wild flowers to plant this year.
- Forest schools/ Bush Craft – there is a huge demand from these groups to use the woodland area for children's activities. Guidelines for use have been agreed with the council. These guidelines have been sent out to remind relevant group leaders – especially important is the No Fires rule.

Litterpicking, Pond Squad and Moselle Brook: Regular volunteering sessions held in September, but no new issues not already minuted at previous meetings.

Flower and Produce Festival

- Those who had been there reported it had been a great success, despite the two heavy downpours, which didn't deter people staying on.
- There were no entries for the Tottenham Cake category in the Flower and produce show, so we will have to promote it. (traybake sponge cake with pink icing, originally made by the Tottenham Quakers using mulberries from their garden - Greggs used to sell it).

Finance

- Caroline, Joan and Dave will be considering the best way to ask for donations for the Friends, using Collectiv and other methods. £330 has been raised through donations since 1st April, which can be put towards our core costs.
- It will be important to make sure that the public understand the difference between fund raising for the Hub and fundraising for the park. Often people think they are one and the same organisation.
- The Hub needs to do a big fundraising effort to compensate for money lost during the building works period and we need to ensure that our fundraising doesn't undermine theirs

Website

- Updating and rationalising the information on the website will be an ongoing task. Can people look at their relevant sections to suggest any tweaks / additions/ easy changes that can be made.

Playground

- Joan and Dave had a meeting with Simone, the new council officer dealing with this refurbishment project. Discussions are ongoing.
- The playground upgrade work will be put out to tender soon.

Beer festival

The proposal to use Lordship rec has been withdrawn. Downhills park is now being considered.

Processionary moths

- They have not been around so much this year and have not been seen in the oak circle near the Higham Road entrance.
- However, the oak tree in area 11 has been infected so Sally suggests leaving grass long around this oak tree so that people are discouraged from sitting under it and coming into contact with the severely irritating caterpillars' hairs.

Halloween

- Lantern making parade is scheduled for Wednesday 29th October.
- About 100 children are expected!
- Can any volunteers come to help between 4.00 and 5.00 on the day?
- Caroline will contact people who ticked the Arts and Craft box on the volunteering questionnaire.

AGM

- Agreed to set date for 9th November.
- People need to be nominated for posts in advance of the meeting. So Dave needs to send out an email alerting people to their chance to nominate potential postholders.

AOB

- **Volunteering signs** – there is no sign of publicity for volunteering activities in the notice boards. Suggestion made to update the volunteering map and display it in the boards.
- **Wild flower garden in front of the Hub** – Alyson asked if any knowledgeable people (perhaps from the woodland group) are available to help with this project.
- **New council worker** – Marius has taken over from Usman who has moved back to his original post in Down Lane park.
- **Community Payback workers** – are no longer working in Lordship Rec.