

Friends of Lordship Rec – Monthly meeting 1st Feb 2026

Present: Dave, Nina, Joan, Sara, Alyson, Mike, Liam, Sara, Sharon, Lois, and another

Apologies: Beewan, Dayal, Sally, Rajiv, Caroline, Catherine, Chuku

Orchard Group report

- Pruning session happening today. Going very well.
- 15th Feb – Pruning Session – there is a link to this event on Event Brite.
- Some extra apple trees will be planted next month.

Dry Rock Garden

- Simone, from Haringey council says that they will remove the plastic / rubber ground surface at the end of March.
- Then contractors will come and break up the old concrete.
- Mike will arrange collection and transport of crushed rubble from Broadwater Farm.
- Haringey will pay for seeds
- Mike will set up a new group to maintain it.
- The cable slide is due to be replaced in the slightly expanded playground.

No Mow areas

- One of the maintenance staff has suggested establishing some new No Mow areas in patches where land tends to be waterlogged and thus hard to mow. These are two quadrants inside the model traffic area and by the multi-sue games area. **We agreed.**
- It is felt these areas can be maintained without too much trouble. It would require weeding out very invasive plants like brambles.
- The edges of each area would be mown to make them look decent and cared for.

Elm trees

- Elms For London is offering free disease-free Elm Trees
- Mike suggested that we take up the offer. He will speak to Russel and Alex about it and bring any future proposal to a meeting.

Standing dead wood

- Some diseased dead chestnuts in the main field were recently cut & removed. Plus a spinney tree.
- We will continue to support our Management Plan policy of leaving standing deadwood in the park unless of course it is diseased – so as to aid biodiversity.
- Mike will speak to the council about consulting and keeping us informed in advance about any future plans to fell trees.

Woodland Group

- Working parties are on the 2nd Sat every month. Attendance is good – around 10 people.
- Recently did coppicing, processing the coppiced wood, and laying woodchip along the paths.
- Stakes from coppiced wood are now stored in the lock up - ready for use when required.
- Some trees are planned to be felled to allow more light to reach ground level to benefit younger trees and create areas of glades. There will be a workshop with TCV experts.
- The person who dumped rubbish in the wood has been contacted by the council and they have agreed to pay for it to be cleared up.

Children's playground

- Consultation on the new upgrade/design is now closed. We had publicised it.
- Work is due to start before the end of March.
- Dave and Joan aim to meet with Simone (leading on the works) with last minute thoughts.

- Joan is concerned about the big hedge shown in the pictured plan, between the playground and the seating area by the hub. It looks like it would block the view of seated parents and carers keeping an eye on their children. Also, it would be a trap for rubbish.

Threat to exploit Lordship Rec for commercial events

- We have sent our detailed objections to relevant officers and Councillors again explaining that any commercialisation of Lordship Rec as a 'cash cow' is totally unacceptable and damaging. A 7-10 day 'takeover' of our main field in July, if not withdrawn, will likely be the thin end of the wedge for future years. We are awaiting responses.
- Instead we are planning a Community Picnic on July 25th and are inviting everyone, including Cllrs, to join in a celebration of 25 yrs of community action and partnership-working with the Council. The Friends were launched by 50 park users at a meeting in the Broadwater Centre in June 2001.
- The council have still not given us any further details about the proposed commercial event (as they had promised before xmas) or if it has been withdrawn.
- Sharon, from Higham Rd Whatsapp group, proposes to contact the Council's events team to ask specifically about any applications re licensing for the the event.
- Council Elections. We noted they are due on May 7th. We have asked all Cllrs to confirm their support for the Friends and community empowerment in the Rec.
- Lordship Rec Users Forum meeting. Dave and Clasford will organise a meeting for all the different groups based in the park along with adjacent residents groups to highlight and discuss this threat to our park, as well as any other key issues (like the Lottery bid).

Friends' Litter picking Group – ticking over well.

General Leaflet about the park – work in progress (Joan and Dave)

FLR website - improvements ongoing, guided by Caroline's review pts. Already noticeable.

Paths Maintenance

- After speaking with Dave, Rajiv and a fellow Parkrunner have thoroughly surveyed all the paths in the park!
- Rajiv is an architect who deals with paths. He will grade the problems.
- He will produce a detailed photo-report for us and the council so that it can be included in the information in the planned lottery 'Expression of Interest' for the park.

Appeal for Funds for the Friends So far £400 has been donated toward our Appeal for £1000 desperately needed for FLR insurance bill and other stuff.

Front entrance area of the Rec (Lordship Lane)

- The Rockstone Bike Shop has had some anti-social behaviour problems and closed for a while. We have been lobbying for effective action and improvements to that area for years.
- Clasford has been asked to chair the next Police Neighbourhood Ward Panel to be held in Broadwater Centre. We agreed to support, and to raise concerns about the park.

Tottenham Flower and Produce Festival

- Sunday March 1st at The Hub – Seed swap and plant sale will celebrate the success of the festival.
- 12th September 2026 – is the date set for the next festival.
- Open planning meetings have already started. Next is Fri Feb 27th, 6.30pm at the Hub.

Next FLR meeting - Sunday March 1st @ 3pm 3pm because its the same day as the Seed swap. There may be some timing overlap between the two events – maybe an opportunity to involve more people.