

Friends of Lordship Rec – monthly meeting 1st March 2026

Present: Dave, Nina, Caroline, Chuku, Paul, Louise, Joan, Sara **Apologies:** Sally, Mike, Liam, Catherine

Orchard Group

- Pruning is going well. A very successful pruning workshop took place on March 1st, led by Russell Miller. It was attended by 7 participants, several of whom have joined the Orchard Whatsapp group.
- Four more apple trees have been planted – sponsored by families. A rare Sorbus Domestica (a True Service tree) also planted. A special tree (a Tom Putt Cider Apple) has been planted in memory of Marcia. The planting was attended by her family and friends.
- On 22 Feb volunteers cleared grass and brambles, and mulched young fruit trees in Area 10.
- The next volunteering session will be on Sunday March 29th 10 – 1 pm

No Mow areas

- We and the council have agreed to Colin's suggestion re the new No Mow areas.
- Paul would like to do a survey of small mammals in the park. He will chat with Sally about the existing 3 year timetable for No Mowing areas. It was suggested that Sally contact the council to give an extra reminder of our 3 year plan – so avoid mowing at the wrong time.

Woodland Group

- February session was well attended and tackled all the normal tasks.
- TCV did a special session on 6th Feb. They ran a tree felling and coppicing course. This needed to allow more light in to the lower levels of the woods. TCV will charge for this work - paid from our available LBH PNP funds. Three further dates have been agreed with TCV. TCV have suggested asking for funds from the Woodland Trust.
- Our next session will be March 14th with focus on laying more wood chip.
- Honouring David Bevan. 1940 - 2026 <https://david-bevan-1940-2026.muchloved.com/>
David Bevan was Haringey Nature Conservation Officer for 17 yrs. He helped to protect and nurture woodlands and nature across Haringey, organising the initial planting of the woodland in Lordship Rec. Individuals are invited to make a donation to the Woodland Trust on his behalf.

Children's Playground

- Improvement works will start in May. Simone (LBH) will first meet up with Joan and Dave.
- Response from parents in Questionnaire: 90 people ticked the box in the consultation questionnaire saying that they would like to be involved in future considerations concerning the children's playground. Unfortunately, despite our urging, the council didn't add that they would pass on contact details directly to the Friends so we could help parents set up a Support Group. Dave will contact the council to work out a way to give respondents the chance to pass their contact details on.

Litter picking group – is ticking over nicely.

Moselle river volunteers - continue to clear the channel monthly

Pond Squad – No update this month

Birders Group

- Lordship Birders group has been going for 18 months. Weather permitting, it is on the first Thursday of every month. Paul put an announcement about it on our Lordship Rec Facebook group which received many enthusiastic likes and comments. He's also started publicising the group on a blog.
- It was suggested that the group formally becomes part of Friends of Lordship Rec. Agreed in principle pending further discussion by the new group. The Friends would welcome it!

Park leaflet

- Our new all-singing, all-dancing, all-colour leaflet – our first ever properly promoting the park as a whole - has been further amended following feedback. The final version is coming out soon.
Update: 3,000 now printed – help welcome in distributing them!

Lordship Rec Users Forum meeting 17th February

- Powerful meeting with a good turnout from many of the various user groups. Decisions made to:
 - continue to spread solidarity among all the user groups;
 - support the front area and bike shop (including the new proposed Play Area there from £160,000 allocated from the Pride in Place funding);
 - support the community/council's joint bid for substantial lottery funding (the Friends to lead on behalf of the LRUF);
 - celebrate the 25th anniversary of Lordship Rec's rejuvenation journey (with the founding of the Friends in June 2001) by holding a community picnic this summer in July;
 - oppose the threatened 7-10 day commercial takeover of the main field (including the gig now proposed for July 18th) and to support the Friends objection to the commercialisation of our park.

Commercial threat to the Rec

- The council have been keeping secret from us details of the proposed 7-10 day event.
- Dave is due to meet with Haringey's Head of Parks, Simon Farrow, to discuss the issue. *Update: They met and the Council (Simon and the Leader Peray Ahmet) are now in no doubt of the strength of feeling on this and the damage it would do to the partnership we have patiently built up with them over the last 25 years. Both say they are 'looking into it'.*
- We agreed that campaigning should be a multi group effort. Dave and Clasford to convene.

Lottery 'expression of interest' for further major funding for the Rec.

- The council (Chris P) have drafted an initial very basic document, seeking £4m. Dave discussed with Simon F and it will be reviewed, incorporating our inspiring 'Lordship Village' proposals which we had drafted 2 years ago, which other groups had signed up to.
- Any bid, to be successful, will need to emphasise the phenomenal community empowerment and co-management of the Rec that has been achieved over the last 20 yrs.

FLR funds appeal

- So far £630 has been donated towards the £1,000 target.
- More is needed. We have publicised widely. Now that the most urgent Hub funding needs have been partly met we plan to include our own FLR funding appeal in the Hub newsletter.

Finance

- Caroline has to do a submission this week for how we've spent the LBH PNP funding.
- Joan to provide publications expenses and photographic evidence of our events.

Front area of the Rec

- The Neighbourhood Safety Ward panel meets March 10th at BWFCC. Will discuss the Rec.
- Clasford will be chairing it. *Update: Chuku, Mike and Dave all went.*

Tottenham Flower and Produce Festival

- The third organising meeting took place. Half a dozen attended. Funding being sought.
- Wheely Tots secured a grant for the Festival for £2,000 from Active Change to fund access to an online system which can be used to help to streamline its admin/organisation.

Ramadan walk On Thursday 5th March there will be a Ramadam Iftar meal for the community at BWFCC, preceded by a walk around the park led by Dave (for the Friends). *Update: 25 attended and it seemed to go really well!*

Children's garden / Harmony Gardens Mike has re-laid the pond. It already has frogspawn!

Skateboarding area

- Dan, from the Shell BMX group has links to other local skateboarding groups.
- Substantial funds have recently been allocated to develop new skateboarding areas.

Water bottle filler

- Installation of our new water bottle filler is still held up by some Council legal issues.
- Joan will investigate how much it would cost to proceed with installation independently, how much that might cost, and whether we'd need to raise further money (eg from Thames Water?)