

Friends of Lordship Rec - Minutes 2nd August 2026

Present: Sally, Fernando, Karen, Caroline, Sara, Joan **Apologies:** Dave, Mike,

This was a small meeting. No hard copy of the previous minutes were available. We decided to narrow our focus to issues raised by those who were present.

Motorbikes

- Fernando, who lives on the park side of Higham Road has been disturbed by frequent incursions of large motorbikes racing around the park.
- He has reported the matter to the police several times.
- The police took notes but didn't turn up. Even if they had arrived, they would, most likely have missed the event.
- Caroline will ask Dave to let Fernando know when the next Neighbourhood Ward Panel meeting is so that he can speak directly to the police who attend.
- It was suggested that we confer with other park groups and the council to clarify any relevant council policy on this issue and consider what can be done about it.
- It's tricky. Cross barriers at park entrances would also restrict access for wheelchair users and prams.

Barbeques

- Fire engines have been called to extinguish fires in the park at least twice recently.
- The grass is very dry. There is currently a high risk of fire in the park
- Haringey's Parks and Green Spaces Policy document from 2022 says that Barbeques are not allowed in parks. However, this constraint is not listed in Haringey's bylaws – and so is unenforceable by law.
- The meeting agreed to go ahead and purchase some unambiguous signs stating "High Risk Fire Area – No Barbeques - No Fires.
- The plan is to erect some smaller signs near commonly used barbeque areas and to put some larger, banner type signs up on park gates. Joan agreed to organise these.

Litter

- As usual, summer weather has brought with it a huge increase in litter problems. Some people place their litter next to bins which are already full. Others simply leave all their picnic litter on the ground where they were settled. Bags of litter left close to bins are often ravaged by foxes.
- The meeting agreed to try to purchase some sticky backed signs for the bins saying "Please take your litter home with you". Note: Since the meeting we have realised that the bins on the main west side path, so have these notices on them.
- Sally spoke in favour of a long-term aim to change current littering culture to one where it becomes the norm to take your litter home. Apparently, some parks are reducing their provision of bins in order to try and achieve this cultural shift.

- **Litter issues and Haringey's new politics..** Caroline raised the issue of the changed political situation in Haringey, which after 50 years of one party domination, now has a minority administration and councillors more evenly balanced between parties. The recent increase in litter problems in Haringey parks had become a bit of a political football on social media with councillors and MPs using the debate, and joining in with parks litterpicking, for political point scoring. The Friends is a non-party political organisation for all park users, and we aim to have constructive working relationships with all councillors and council employees. So in the new landscape we need to be careful when dealing with councillors and MPs on parks issues not to be used inadvertently for party political purposes.

Orchard report

- The spoon wood-carving workshop was a lovely event and very well attended.
- Joan requested that future events are publicised in advance on the Friends of Lordship Rec Facebook site as well as on the other platforms such as Eventbrite.

Flower and Produce Festival

- The pre- festival Gardeners Question Time event was a great success. About 15 people attended. Paul from Harmony Gardens stepped in to cover for one of the experts who was unable to make it. He did a magnificent job.
- The first children's workshop, hosted by Pamela from Black Rootz was also great. It generated fantastic enthusiasm and inspiration.

Guerilla Gardener

- The last notice put up to communicate with him stated that the unapproved trees he had planted would be uprooted soon if he didn't do it himself.
- However, it now seems that communication with him could now be made in person. This would be far preferable. So no hasty uprooting will take place.

Harvest Festival

This will take place on 24th October. As well as a shared community meal, activities so far include Apple Day skills, Tea blending and making Corn Dollies.

Finance

- Flower and Produce finances have been double checked.
- Orchard finances have been clarified.
- Some money remains in the central pot.
- The planned inventory of tools in the Containers has had to be postponed because contractors have fenced off the area for works. So purchase of new tools will be a bit delayed.

AGM – Proposed date for the next AGM is November 8th.