

Minutes of the meeting of the Friends of Downhills Park, Sunday 10 March 2019

Friends: Sophie Allaway, Chris Currie, Neri Gun, Sylvia Oland, Clare Parry, Jonathan Ringshall, Jehan Shah & Attia, Stephen Whittle

Apologies: Matt Battersby, Seema Chandawi, Rod Wells, Sarah Williams

1. Minutes & matters arising

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2019 were agreed as a true record. Sophie had joined the group for the first time and was warmly welcomed.

2. Forthcoming events in Downhills Park

- It was noted that the performance of **The Wind in the Willows** had been confirmed for **Saturday 22 June at 2pm**. It will be held in the area adjacent to the café and the entrance at Keston Road. Clare will submit a small grants application for the related costs once the new application year commences in April.
- **Art in the Park** is scheduled for **Sunday 21 July 2019**. Clare has started the application to use Downhills Park. A small grants application will be submitted in late April. It was agreed that the Friends of Downhills Park would once again ask Pocket Living to contribute to the cost of Art in the Park. A funding application will also be submitted to the Tottenham Grammar School Foundation. It was suggested that we have a trial run at putting up the gazebos donated by Ray Swain in advance of Art in the Park. Clare and Sylvia also requested permission to buy some pop up gazebos if required, this was approved.
- **Don't forget the kids:** Neri noted that the Don't forget the kids annual family fun day is scheduled for Saturday 20 July 2019.
- Neri also noted that she is planning to hold an **Arts and Cultural Festival** in the second weekend of September 2019. This is partly supported by Pernod who have been in touch with Neri about working together in Tottenham.

3. Pond

Sylvia had attended the volunteer session that TCV had run at the pond on 24 February.

4. Volunteers at Downhills Park

Clare noted that she had received two separate enquiries about the possibility of volunteers undertaking activities in Downhills Park. The first from Mentorwise and the second from Trees for Cities. Friends were in agreement that so long as there were sufficient activities for volunteers to do and that they contributed to the overall benefit of the park and did not generate further work for parks staff then there were no objections. It was agreed that we would liaise with parks staff to agree activities that volunteers could usefully take part in at Downhills Park.

5. Bins

It was noted that several bins had been removed during the green flag process in late November and that these had still not been replaced. Clare noted that this is likely to be addressed as part of the wider

council strategy on bins in parks. It is expected that workshops on the different strands of the park strategy will be open to Friends groups later this year. One will focus on bins and litter in parks.

6. **Green Flag**

Clare noted that Simon Farrow had been in attendance at the Parks Forum meeting in early February 2019 and provided an update in relation to the Green Flag inspections in parks. There is still further work to carry out in Downhills Park to meet the requirements identified in previous inspection reports.

7. **AOB**

- **Tottenham mixer:** Neri noted that the next Tottenham Mixer will be held on Saturday 13 April, all are very welcome.
- **NFL:** Jonathan flagged the proposals re: NFL & use of Bruce Castle Park, a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13 April.

Next meeting of the Friends of Downhills Park: Sunday 28 April, 4pm, Downhills Park Café. This will be the Friends of Downhills Park AGM.