

Chris Currie, Sylvia Oland, Clare Parry, Jonathan Ringshall, Rod Wells

: Brenda Whittle, Stephen Whittle

It was noted that there was an error in the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September where it indicated that the next meeting would be the AGM. Once amended, the minutes were agreed as a true record.

Clare noted that contrary to the information shared previously, the depot on Keston Road had not been sold and was still for sale.

Planting in the borders in the park had been scheduled for the autumn.

Friends were reminded the bulb planting & litter picking had been scheduled for Saturday 25 November 2017. Thanks were noted to Gary Oland for updating the poster. Clare agreed to email Sarah Jones regarding planning for the bulb planting & litter picking.

Rod noted that there had been further work on the orchard trees in the meadow area of the park. The conflict between the wildflower meadow and the orchard was noted and it was agreed that this Friends should be conscious of this in 2018 and look at how the area can be used to best effect. It was noted that several of the recently planted trees looked to have died.

It was agreed that the Friends should request a copy of the Management Plan and look at how they can be better involved in the life of the park and related planning.

It was noted that a dead tree had fallen near the pond & broken through the fence around the pond. The council were aware.

Travellers had broken into the park & there were about 8 caravans and cars/vans on the lower field. The council had been informed. Access to the park had been via the gate at the junction of Downhills Park Road and Belmont Road.

Clare noted that she had received an email from a woman whose son had been injured in the playground area by the gate closing on his hand. She had been advised to contact the council who had addressed the matter.

Sylvia & Clare had received paperwork from Ray regarding the War Memorial. Clare agreed to scan & share the documentation and to follow up with Barbara Blake who had spoken to Clare about the War Memorial at Art in the Park.

It was noted that Ray would be leading a remembrance event at the war memorial on Sunday 12 November. It was agreed that the Friends of Downhills Park would offer to cover the costs of the wreath and poppies again this year. Clare agreed to contact Ray to let him know.

Sylvia reported that the payment from Haringey Council of £500 remained outstanding. Clare will follow up with Thema Channer/Sarah Jones.

Members discussed the questionnaire received from the Friends of Parks Forum and agreed on the answers to be submitted. Clare agreed to complete and return the questionnaire on behalf of the Friends of Downhills Park.

Clare agreed to put together a proposed set of meeting dates for the Friends of Downhills Park meetings and activities in 2018 and share it with the Committee.