

Friends of Towneley Park (Reg. Charity No. 1144988)
Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday July 24th 2013

1. **Present:** Pat Colbran, Ronnie Pollard, Maureen Frankland, Pat & Pete Ashton, Linda White, June Pritchard, Keith Buchanan, Susan Barker, Margaret Crane, Louise Chesbrough, Keith Wilson.
2. **Apologies:** June Evans, Sylvia Hagan, John Nuttall.
3. **Minutes and Matters arising**– May 16th: Minutes passed as a true record.
 - **Insurance:** We understand that Group members are fully covered when working in the Park under Council Officers. Simon still to confirm this.
 - **Seat at Woodgrove:** Maureen met with Andy. It was decided to place it at car park end of the pond. A metal seat with a back was thought to be best (to avoid vandalism) although it would be more expensive. The Group agreed to donate £300 towards the cost.
 - The rescued old bronze deer is now on show in the Parlour/Exhibition room in the Hall awaiting renovation.
- 4 **Officers Reports:**
 - **Andy** had reported that the Tuesday Cricket League had been discontinued (due to a rise in fees?). We felt strongly that it should be encouraged to re-form next season, as this was a good example of different communities coming together and there has been a long history of cricket in the Park. If it was a matter of financing, could funding be found through community funds?
 - **Keith Wilson attended:** Balsam clearing at Thanet Lee over recent years has paid off and is now fairly clear. Still needs checking each year!
We agreed to distribute posters for the Heritage and Woodland festival along with the Autumn Newsletter to our usual outlets.
The Jubilee trees planted last year at the Small Holdings need checking and possibly weeding. He will let us know if our help is needed.
 - He has had lots of favourable comments on the new footpath work alongside the Smallholdings Wood at the top of Brunshaw. The LCC “mobility scooter group day out” were very impressed with all the Park paths..
 - **Mike Townend** has discussed with Maureen ways the Group could help with the First World War project. Ten members volunteered to help supervise children planting poppy seeds in the spring and to trail of crosses at the end of June into July 2014 along the Holmes Road.
It was agreed to donate £100 towards the cost of the poppy seeds.
We do not want to be involved in a sample survey of Park visitors about the project.

5 **.Financial Report: 15th May – 24th July 2013**

expenditure	£	income	£
Bin bags, twine- lt. Gdn plants	6.45	Scooter donations	63.26
Eco-Arts HLF workshops	1200.00	Give &Gain day (drinks donation)	30.00
Give &Gain Day Drinks	30.00	Sale - lt Gdn Plants	162.12
Bags for balsam	35.88	Catering – Band Concert	178.35
Catering – cups etc.(Band Concert)	32.10	Donations – Band Concert	162.12
Envelopes	3.40	W/Fest donation (Sainsbury's)	50.00
Biscuits - Band Concert	5.27	Sale of notelets	7.00
Bin Bags – lt. Gdn. Plants	2.00	HLF 2 nd phase	5120.00
Eco-Art Wicker Deer	460.00	Donation – D. Preston	200.00
		B/Fwd	12,000.00
Total: 9545.40		Total: 17,993.51	
		Balance: 8,448.11	
		Committed Money: 4,174.31 *	
		So Available funds = 4,273.30	

* **Committed money:** Rotary Club garden- 64.00, Coop Scooter Mtce - 814.30 , Autumn bulbs 250.00
 Chairs(donation)- 200.00, Woodgrove bench – 250.00 W/Fest 750.00 HLF -1845.01

6. **Feedback on Projects:**

- **The wildflower seeds** planted in the wetland area at Fullege are looking good. Simon Goff and Vicky Dewhurst are planning to have the bridge on the wetland path installed as soon as possible. It has been noticed that the new drainage by LCC on the Unity College playing fields has produced very nasty looking water which is diverted into the wetland pond. We feel that the Environment Agency should be involved to ensure this is acceptable, or is there a better way of treating of this water before it goes into the Calder?
- **The fountain renovation** and wicker deer in the Italian Garden have been greatly admired and appreciated by the public – a good outcome from the HLF project.
- **As part of the History project**, Susan is hoping to arrange a visit from the N.W. Film Archive at Manchester University to show their historical films of Towneley.

On her recent "Stroll Through Time" walk with the public, they measured the length of the Park walkway. This confirmed the early records of Charles Towneley's "Grand Tour" as 2,200 yards.

- **The Give and Gain Day** in May was enjoyed by all, and we are happy to take part again next year. Some outlying projects needed better organisation for the delivery of materials to the sites. N.B for future!
- **The spring plant sales** from the Italian Garden were very successful. Pete is potting up lots of primulas ready for the Woodland festival plant sale.
- The new information banner we use on the day at Riverside to promote events up at the Hall area has proved useful. It is being sited by the ticket machine, and taken down after the event.
- **The Band Concert** was very popular, and the refreshment stall was soon a sellout. We need to buy at least one large size teapot – Pat A agreed to find a source.
The Group has offered to buy some extra chairs to use at such events, if safe dry storage can be provided at Towneley. Diana Preston has kindly donated £200 which will buy 38 chairs including delivery. Margaret, Maureen and Susan have had sessions pulling Himalayan Balsam during the summer and St. Stephens year 5 children, staff and 7 Friends helped to clear a large area near the Riverside bridge.
- **The Antique Road Show** – all the volunteers enjoyed the day and the experience. Ken Darwen popped in to thank us for the help we gave,

7. Current and Future Projects:

- **The Autumn/Winter Newsletter** is now ready to go to Graphics for a print run of 2500 copies.(funding by LCC Cllrs. Brindle, Sumner and Hassan) Should be available in mid- August for distribution through our usual channels, together with leaflets about the Woodland Festival on September 15th.
- **Mobility scooters:** Many thanks to Sarah and Christine (Hall Shop) who see to the issue of the scooters to the public. New notices (made by Diana Preston) have been put in the Notice Boards. Friends are asked to use the scooters as much as possible during the winter months to keep them charged up. Warm clothing and gloves needed!
- **Summer Walks:** All start at the Rotunda at 2.00pm
July 28th led by Maureen and Andrew- Extending the Towneley Boundaries.
August 11th led by Susan – A Stroll through Time (part two)
August 26th (Monday) led by Pat and Pete. A Family Fun Walk.
- 8 members are looking forward to visiting the **Towneley Bowling Club** on July 25th to sample the game.
- **The visit to Offshoots** - date not yet arranged.
- **Heritage and Woodland Day** (September 15th noon-4.00pm)
Keith Wilson & Susan to lead a Heritage Woodland Walk (1.00pm -meet front of Hall Shop)
Stalls – Extra help welcome with any of the stalls – contact Maureen (01282 432423)
Margaret & Pat C – planting bulbs with children.
Pete, Susan & Keith B – Plant Sales.
Pat A & June P – Tombola – bottles, jars, sweets etc. Members were asked to donate 5 Items each, Which can be left at 8 Glen View Road(01282 426449)
Maureen & Laura C. - Eco-games. (also maybe a history quiz trail)
- **Bonfire Tuesday November 5th.**
2BR radio are helping to sponsor the event from 6.30 – 9.00pm on the field past the changing pavilion. Several of our members volunteered to assist the security staff. M. to ask Simon re a hog-roast. A suggestion was made to involve local primary schools to each make a guy to be judged on the night.
- **Christmas Planning** – meet at 8 Glen View Road Wednesday October 26th at 10.30am.

8. Regular Activities:

- **Gardening Club:** August 1st 10.00am meet by Offshoots. We can collect compost from Offshoots
- **Website:** Susan, Pat and Richard continue to update.
- **Card and DVD** sales ongoing.
- **Litter picks:** members do individually. Maureen to provide pickers for June P. and Susan.

9. AOB:

Regular bird feeding to start in November – Maureen will do a time table and buy suitable feed.
Bulb planting to be arranged with the usual schools. We have money available from Skipton B.S.to buy bulbs.
Keith Wilson kindly invited members to attend his retirement "do" at Offshoots on October 16th lunch time.

Andrew and Maureen would like to invite all members plus partners for a meal and social evening at 96 Stirling Court following the Annual general Meeting.

Next Meeting Date is the AGM on: Saturday October 13th at 2.00pm (in Lecture Theatre)

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