

FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK
Minutes
Meeting held June 29th Bowling Green

Present: Roger Leach, Linda White, Pat Colbran, June Pritchard, Pat Ashton, Pete Ashton, Keith Buchanan, Ronnie Pollard, Grayson Holden, Margaret Crane, Ruth Shorrocks, (Super Slow Way), Susan Barker, Maureen Frankland, Andrew Johnson, Richard Moss

Apologies: Andy Buck, Carly Glover

Minutes/Matters Arising : Minutes were passed as a true record.

- 1) Simon Goff is organising planting of bushes as wind breaks at the Rotunda. We are no longer formally picking Himalayan Balsam .
- 2) We have agreed to buy a litter bin, not a dog bin, probably to be placed on the new pathways round Higher Towneley footpaths. .
- 3) Maureen had forwarded some suggestions to Alan Green (VIP Programme) for tasks volunteers could do. FOTP members asked for suggestions of others tasks volunteers might be able to do.
- 4) Linda asked to send a letter to Vicky Woods, Ribble Rivers Trust thanking them for the donation of wheelbarrow, edge clippers and gloves. All had already been made good use of.
- 5) The Bridge at the wetlands is still in hand. Simon has funding for the bridge but not for the installation. He is aiming to have it fitted in the August. We will offer support in any way we can to get this installed a.s.a.p.

Treasurer's Report: This financial year the expenditure has been £9639, leaving a balance of £6274, We have ring fenced £2000 for scooter maintenance and £450 for bins. As we have made £215 from plant sales from the Italian Garden and £507.55 from Band Day, we have £4000 to utilise.

Officers Report: No Report from A. Buck. At this time a presentation was given by Ruth Shorrocks, Community co-ordinator, about bringing an artist in to do workshop. This is in conjunction with Canal River Trust. We later agreed Maureen should ask Ruth to invite an artist to speak for 20 mins at our AGM.

Website etc: events are up to date. Pat C and Susan plan to re-visit and update other pages. Facebook –We are now active as Friends of Towneley Park on facebook and have over 100 likes. Towneley News - Please consider/ suggest / offer articles to include in the March 2016 edition. Twitter - Linda to see A. Mc Donough to revisit. Noticeboard in foyer needs updating when checking Park noticeboards. August – Pat and Pete. September – Maureen and Andrew. Comments box in foyer needs pencil attached to a string.

Re-Thinking Parks : VIP picnic run by BBC in Queens Park, on July 1st will include information about rethinking Parks. All welcome.

Gardening Club:

- We agreed to ask schools if they want to plant bulbs again in October/November. MF to contact.
- We discussed the possibility of meeting twice a month. Gardening Club members to discuss and agree each month.
- It was agreed to purchase a metal garden storage box for gardening tools etc. to be placed at the side of Bowling Green Meeting Room. MF to check with Simon.

Park Supervision- We agreed that each member will take a specific area of the Park and report any problems/ improvements/ good use back to group at future meetings.

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| 1) Woodgrove – Roger: | 2) Fulleage – Maureen and Andrew |
| 3) Wilson's smallholdings – Pat C and Margaret | 4) Riverside and Playground – Ronnie |
| 5) Higher Towneley Playing fields – Pat and Pete | 6) Hall area and Bowling green - ? Ian? |
| 7) Wilderness - Grayson | 8) High Royd and Causeway – Keith |
| 9) Barwise – Richard and Cynthia | 10) Triangle – Linda |

Mtg Room/storage: Mtg room needs improvements e.g. more comfortable seating. Storage already discussed and agreed.

MF to contact BBC Maintenance Team to discuss work needed.

FOTP members invited to meet at 12.45 pm on Thursday September 3rd in the mtg room to decide what we can and want to do. Bring packed lunch if required.

Feedback

Plant Sale – very successful with outdoor honesty box on corner of Italian garden. Thanks to members who stocked up the stall and collected the money.

Brass Band concert raised £507 altogether with catering, a raffle, donations and plant sales which was very good. Pete A was asked to buy an extra hot water flask for future use.

Scooters. MF needs to check how they are being used and who is now responsible for them.

Wool and Wood: Trail much appreciated by the public. Thanks to members for repairing and improving it as required. Summer quiz now available, with prize draw on September 13th.

Future Plans:

- Strongman Day July 19th. Pete A. to request high viz jackets from Andy Buck. MF to make sign for £1 charge to park.
- Heritage and Woodland Day- we have promised £50 to St Peter's Leisure Centre towards leisure activities for children (Donated by Springwood). We will also pay £150 for Air Cadets for parking duties.
- Heritage and Woodland Day – Sunday September 13th- We will be doing teas and cakes etc, in the Housekeepers room in the hall. Pricing still to be decided. ALL members and friends needed to make cakes and to help serve etc if possible on the day. Details to follow from Maureen.
- October half term holidays - Quiz to be run for children. Hallow E'en masks already done. Pat A to buy orange paper. Quiz already prepared. Pat to confirm with Ken Darwen re printing and shop to supply quizzes and collect money.

Litter: MF meeting with S. Goff and Andy Buck at the end of August to discuss litter issues. It was noted that there are no bins in Thanet Lee Wood. We will put an article in our newsletter about litter.

Wish List: FOTP requests to improve the Park or its activities.

- Improved litter collection especially on long or busy weekends.
- Need to address slippery path in tunnel in Thanet Lee Wood.
- Trees before the tunnel (when coming from the hall) need pruning.
- Can we improve the old Bandstand area e.g. make a small area as specialised flower beds.
- Muddy patches on main paths in Thanet Lee need hard core/ road planings.
- 2016 is the 10th Anniversary of the Singing Ringing Tree - - do we want to link with/ make a celebration?
- When groups e.g. Race for Life use the park, can we find a way of avoiding route markings e.g. pink sprayed tree roots.
- Installation of the bridge at the wetland.
- Children's playground of wooden obstacles/activities etc.

A.O.B: Invite Ruth Shorrock/ artist to AGM.

Pat and Richard Colbran to purchase new bird feeders for the winter.

FOTP members and partners to be invited to have a lunch together at the Stables café after the AGM.

Next Meeting:

A.G.M. October 24TH AT 11 A.M.

(In Towneley Hall unless otherwise advised)