

# FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Present:** Maureen Frankland, Pat & Pete Ashton, Keith Buchanan, Ken Brown, Pat Colbran, Corinne & Bryan Concah, Margaret Crane, Judith Hindle, Grayson Holden, David Marsden, Denise Motley, John Nuttall, Barbara Nutter, Ronnie Pollard, Gill Robinson, Hazel Greenwood, Neil Ashworth (RRT), Damien H (BBC)

**Apologies:** Diane Flynn, Ethel Lloyd, Anne Mason, Richard Moss, June Pritchard.

## 1) Welcome

Maureen welcomed everyone and invited members to fill in the volunteer task sheet. Easter Sunday task sheet was circulated. Bird feeding will be suspended over the summer months. Rotas for some tasks are displayed in the meeting room and see below for Meeting Room Cleaning Rota

April – Corinne and Byan	May - Pat and Pete	June - Margaret	July - Ken
August - Barbara	September -	October - Ken	

## 2) Minutes and matters arising

The minutes from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 were accepted with the amendment mentioned below. (5.10)

3.2 & 3.3 Most of the new equipment is in place in the Riverside Play Area and a pre-opening is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> April at noon. The remaining equipment should be in place soon after Easter. A drinking fountain is due to be installed.

3.7 On-Line Registration has been completed and Gill Robinson is noting the number of volunteer hours put in by the Friends. It was suggested that management hours should also be included.

4.5 A new carving will soon be installed in the Small Holdings Trail to replace the vandalised one.

5.5 More people have used the Barwise Play Area whilst Riverside has been re-furbished.

5.7 A Portaloo with disabled access has been ordered for the Barwise Play Area from Easter until the end of summer at a cost of £630. We were asked to monitor its cleanliness.

5.10 A £250 grant from CVS has been granted to help fund our glass working project.

5.10 should read 'a training course on using **herbicides**' and not pesticides.

5.11 The trout reared in Springfield & Worsthorne Schools have now been released into the river.

## 3) Burnley BBC input.

Damien reported that many paths had been maintained recently and informed us that 30<sup>th</sup> May would mark the official opening of the Riverside Playground. Emma will be back full time over summer and then swap with Max, supported by one temporary staff and an apprentice working in the park. Maureen thanked Damien for his hard work. A question was raised about Japanese Knotweed which still grows despite being injected with herbicide. Damien replied that it would take several treatments before it could be eradicated. **The Friends were asked to keep an eye open and report existing growth and for any new problem areas in the park.**

## 4) Feedback from Trout in the classroom

Springfield, and Worsthorne schools were taken by Gill R and Neil Ashworth following various trails around the park, picking up litter as they went. Children loved the trail but were actually very surprised at the amount of litter collected. He received a good response from the public too and thought that the project was beginning to change people's attitudes. Trout fry have now been released into the river.

A total of sixty children have been involved in this project with one school already signed up for next year and several others keen to participate. Follow-up sessions were suggested for next year and Springfield School has expressed a willingness to join in our activities at the end of the Summer Term. Everyone

thanked Neil and Gill Robinson for their enthusiasm in the execution of this project. Neil circulated very positive evaluations received from pupils.

### **5)Feedback from Harlow Carr**

Those members who visited Harlow had a brilliant, sunny day studying plants. Thanks to Simon for organising the trip and driving us there in a mini-bus.

### **6)Friends area reports**

#### **6.1 Barwise car park to Bogart Bridge** (Keith Buchanan)

- The tennis courts need attention. Damien is to meet Sean to discuss improvements and funding.

#### **6.2 Lime Walk to Thanet Lee** (Denise Motley)

- Litter dropping has greatly improved.

#### **6.3 Causeway to Pitch & Putt** (Grayson Holden)

- Generally good with an occasional bad spell.

#### **6.4 Thanet Lee** (Maureen Frankland & Andrew Johnson)

- The path has been improved near the yew tree – thank you.
- There has been a fallen tree, blown down in the storms, which is now chopped up and fenced off. The bench has been moved and then woodchip placed round it.
- A bench at the far end has been cleaned and painted, presumably by the donor.
- The rhododendrons have been cut and mainly cleared. The stumps make great climbing opportunities, but not ideal for re-growing. Damien is to determine what is planned for this area.
- Many rhododendrons are showing signs of black rust fungi which Maureen has reported to Roger Rawlinson.
- Himalayan balsam is already growing. David Marsden is working on clearing this but would welcome further assistance.
- Raspberries near the bridge at Monks Well need removing, as does the balsam.

#### **6.5Small Holdings** (Pat Colbran & Margaret Crane)

- Fairly clear, apart from the gully which collects litter. Damien informed us that the gully was originally a ha-ha.
- Litter tends to be more of a problem near Deer Park Road – could a bin be sited near the 9-hole golf course? Maureen has already talked to Simon about placing a bin here.

#### **6.6 Fulleage & Woodgrove** (Ronnie Pollard)

- This area is quite tidy.
- Ronnie wondered what the grass-cutting plans were for this part of the park. Queens Park staff deal with this.

#### **6.7 Riverside Car Park & Memorial** (Pat & Pete Ashton)

- Generally satisfactory.

#### **6.8 Higher Towneley Playing Fields** (Gillian Atkinson)

- No report

#### **6.9 The Triangle & Avenue** (Gill Robinson)

- This area was looking good.

#### **6.10 Springfield Road** (Ethel Lloyd)

- No report

**6.11Italian Garden & Car Park** (Barbara Nutter)An unleashed dog has been seen running around the garden. Could we politely remind the public that dogs should be on a lead on the paths near the Hall.

## 7) Treasurer's report

In Richard's absence, Maureen informed the Friends that our accounts have been officially examined and cost £900. Gill explained that this was necessary as we need to submit an annual return, with independently examined accounts, to the Charity Commission, each year when our income is over £25,000. Simon has said that he can purchase a bench in lieu of this cost. Monies coming into our account must be labelled restricted or unrestricted and must be spent accordingly.

We have received another large donation plus gift aid, helping towards the completion of phase 2 and additional facilities at Riverside and other facilities generally.

## 8) Trustees recommended spending

The Trustees agreed to maintain a reserve of £5000 in the bank to cover things like a new mobility scooter as and when required: to pay any professional fees: to cover training expenses or other unexpected expenses. A £300 donation towards Brass in the Park was agreed. We have received a £72,400 grant for a Changing Places Facility (Changing and toilet facilities for visitors with severe disabilities) at Riverside, through Burnley Council. Our organisation is used as a vehicle for funding which BBC cannot receive.

Suggestions to take forward:

- Bug Hotel for Small Lime Walk – agreed
- Plants for Small Lime Walk – agreed, using £110 recent donation – possibly for use in a Sensory Garden
- Replace some of the History Plaques – agreed
- Extra play equipment for Barwise was discussed, with the possibility of erecting wooden wigwams.
- Bird Tweeteters for Small Lime Walk. These cost £1000 each and could be purchased in the future.
- Litter bins & benches – **report to Maureen if you think there is a need anywhere.**
- Defibrillator for Riverside

Other items discussed include moving the bronze deer from the Hall to the Lake, a new fountain for the lake, a drinking water fountain behind the Hall and signage to Barwise.

**Maureen invited members to pass on their suggestions and views on how we should spend our funds.**

## 9) Tesco Bag for Life Funding

Our application for funding for Riverside Play Area, to Tesco's is going forward to the next stage. This is part of the Bags for Life funding, and customers will be able to vote **between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> June**. We will receive either £1000, £2000 or £4000 depending on how many votes we get. **Please pop in to Tesco. Each shop enables you to contribute 1 token for Towneley, even 1 item. Don't do self-checkout.**

## 10) Summer activities Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

**Please use the overflow carpark at the far end of the Hall Car Park. Bring packed lunch. Drink provided**

TIME	VOLUNTEERS	ACTIVITY	COMMENT
11.30am	<b>Pat Ashton</b>	<b>Overall responsibility</b>	
11.30am	<b>ALL to collect items from the Meeting room</b>		
11.30am	Andrew Johnson Pete Ashton Margaret Crane Bryan and Corinne Concah	Setting up the trail	Collect items for the trail from Pat Ashton
11.30am	Maureen Frankland Richard Moss Sheila Carr	Setting up the gift tables near the roundel	Set up tables and chairs and gifts, and leave covered over lunch
11.30am	Barbara Nutter, Cynthia Moss Pat Ashton and Denise her friend	Set up the foyer	Boards, pencils, trail sheets

12noon	All	Have lunch (bring own) Ronnie and Richard to brew up	
12.30pm-3pm	Pat Ashton and Denise her friend Cynthia Moss Barbara Nutter Margaret Crane (Collecting pencils and boards from roundel)	Explaining the route Receiving money	Trail officially starts at 1pm, but if people arrive early, let's get started! Swop with others as required
1pm – 3.45pm	Ronnie Pollard Richard Moss Corinne Concah Sheila Carr Maureen Frankland	Gift table  Making crafts while resources last.	Collect gifts and craft from Pat Ashton or meeting room
12.30pm-3.15pm	Pete Ashton Bryan Concah	Supervising the trail If not too busy, prepare soft drink and take round to volunteers.	Walk round and have breaks as appropriate
3.15 – 3.45	Andrew Johnson Pete Ashton Bryan Concah	Re-visit trail and collect pictures, eggs etc following the last family round	
	All tidy up and hopefully be away by 4pm.		

**a) Crafters** Our glass project continues to take place on Monday afternoons, however there is no meeting on Easter Monday and the following week will be our last session when the panel will be assembled.

Crafters will then meet on May 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and then end for the summer months.

**b) Gardening and TYP**

Weekly meetings on Thursday mornings 10am – 12noon

**c) Emptying Italian garden and plant sale Week Commencing May 13th**

**Week Commencing May 13<sup>th</sup> Clearing the Italian Garden and Selling the plants**

Date	Task	Sign in this column please
Monday May 13 <sup>th</sup> 10am -12noon	Emptying the flower beds Setting up the table and honesty box. Selling plants	Ken , Pete, Keith, Maureen, Andrew
Monday May 13 <sup>th</sup> 1pm -3pm	Emptying the flower beds and/or selling plants	Crafters + others
Tuesday May 14 <sup>th</sup> 10am -12noon	Emptying the flower beds, Selling plants	Pete, Maureen and Andrew and anyone else who is available.

Pat Colbran has signed for Wednesday 15th pm and Saturday 18th pm – selling and collecting money

Ken Brown has signed for Friday 17th am – selling and collecting money.

Maureen will ring round to encourage others to empty the honesty box and fill up plants as required.

**d) Brass Band**

To be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. (Meet 1pm – Brass band 2pm -4pm) Pat Ashton and Gill Robinson are organising tea, coffee etc for this event. Cakes will be needed from everyone, if possible please.

People who have volunteered to serve refreshments. Others required if possible, please let Maureen know.

Denise M, Pat C, Pat and Pete A, Grayson, Barbara, Keith, Maureen

**e) Gill's trail** In hand. **f) Pat A's trail** In hand. **g) Balsam bashing** – Dates to be confirmed

**h) Working with other partners** e.g. Schools – Springfield , Hollygrove: College – Not involved: **National Citizens Service – Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup> Come and help if you can.**

**11) Any other business** Is there a possibility of purchasing our own mugs to avoid using non-recyclable plastic mugs when our current supply runs out? These could be used when providing refreshments at events in the park. Gill and Ken to explore. **12) Date of the next meeting – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 10am**