

FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK AGM
held NOVEMBER 1ST 2014 at Towneley Hall lecture theatre

N.B. The next two meetings on January 14th and March 11th will be held in the Bowling Club Meeting Room at 10am.

Present: Linda White, Pat Colbran, Margaret Crane, Pat Ashton, Pete Ashton, Ian Walton, Martin Walker, Keith Buchanan, Ronne Pollard, Anne Mason, Cynthia Moss, Richard Moss, Andy Buck, Carly Glover (Burnley Council GSA), Diane Flynn, Susan Barker, Maureen Frankland, John Nuttall

Apologies: Grayson Holden, June Pritchard.

1. **Welcome and apologies.** The Chairperson welcomed all to the meeting and handed out FOTP passes along with the updated contact sheet for members. Carly Glover – Assistant Parks and Playground Officer asked to be added to the contact sheet as 01282 425011 ext 3175 and e mail : cglover@burnley.gov.uk . Arrangements for the Bonfire were confirmed, and the rota for Bird Feeding, Noticeboards and Christmas was circulated.
2. **Minutes of AGM 2013** As no amendments had been received the minutes were proposed by Pat Ashton and seconded by Margaret Crane and accepted by those present.
3. **Matters arising.** Rotunda picnic table had just arrived, to be installed in next 2/3 weeks. Appropriate location to be discussed with A. Buck. The Noticeboard Board now put up at Deerpond and had been paid for by Ward Councillors. Wicker trail not yet undertaken. Golden Gravel – Simon Goff prefers to leave the loose gravel on the edges of the pathways. A. Buck said gardeners would try to keep gullies clear of this material.
4. **Chairperson's Report** This was circulated and read. This included thanks to the Council workers who have supported us: thanks to the Friends for all their hard work: thanks to our sponsors and partners: and thanks to the public. Special thanks was proposed to Christine for taking over duties involving the scooters .
Thanks was received from Andy Buck for all the work the Friends of Towneley Park have done for the Park over the last year.
Despite particular pressures on the group, we had been involved in almost 40 activities.
It was regretted that the Woodland Festival had not gone ahead this year. A.Buck suggested a meeting with BBC be held in February to discuss future of this festival. We also have had little involvement with the Little Children Weak project.
The Wool n Wood project and Christmas are both in hand.
Still outstanding are: The bridge at the Wetlands, the picnic bench near the Rotunda and the wicker trail in Thanet Lee. It was suggested that a formal letter be sent to Simon Goff requesting this bridge be started urgently, as it has be in the planning for over 2 years.
5. **Secretary's Report** This was circulated and read. This contained thanks to Andy Buck for his reports for our meetings containing details of works completed and pending in the Park. Regarding Car parking funds, that is money collected for parking at Towneley, BBC has always agreed it should be spent in Towneley Park. Carly will put Santa in the Park project on the Council's website "POINT ME".
6. **Treasurer's Report** This was circulated and thanks were extended to Richard and Cynthia for this. The ring fenced money elements were explained. Thanks were given to Richard Colbran for notelets sold for our funds over many years, and it was acknowledged that he will no longer replace the cards that have sold out. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as a true record, signed and dated. Discussion took place about :-
Scooters:- funding is needed to repair one of the scooters. Jaycare to be approached to give us an estimate of the usable life of the damaged scooter. Their response to be brought back to committee at a later date.
Insurance:- Simon has recommended that the Friends become members of TCV (Trust for Conservation Volunteers) in order to gain cheap insurance separate from the Council. BBC will pay us back for the insurance fees this year, but we will need to pay £38 membership

which will give us additional benefits. All agreed that it was a necessity to join this organisation and apply for the insurance.

Charity Checkout- Alex McDonagh had done research into this service, but was unable to attend the meeting. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

7. **Election of Officers** Proposed were Chairperson- Maureen Frankland, Vice Chairperson- Pat Ashton. Secretary – Linda White: Treasurers – Richard and Cynthia Moss. There being no other nominations, these four were elected, following the resignation of Roger Leach as Vice Chairman and June Evans as Treasurer.
8. **Trustees** Ronnie Pollard and Pete Ashton put their names forward as trustees following the resignation of Roger Leach and June Evans and both were approved and appointed. Maureen will work with them to complete the necessary paper work for the Charity Commission.
9. **Policies** Equality and Diversity and Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults policies were both approved and adopted.
10. **Volunteer Contacts** The following people agreed to act as co-ordinators for various activities:
 - Pat Ashton and Maureen Frankland – Newsletter
 - Pete Ashton and Pat Ashton - Gardening
 - Pete Ashton and Pat Ashton - Bird feeding. Pat to purchase bird seed. Everyone to buy own poles and submit invoice to Maureen.
 - John Nuttall and Maureen Frankland - Scooters
 - Pat and Richard Colbran, and Susan Barker – Website
 - Susan Barker – Ribble Rivers Trust and Press and publicity.
 - Diane Flynn – Wool n Wood.
 - Ronnie Pollard – Care of Smallholdings posts and wicker deer in Italian garden.
 - Keith Buchanan – liaison with Bowlers and meeting room.
 - Maureen Frankland - Noticeboards

Sheets for volunteers for various projects were passed around for people to sign up to as they wished.

11. **Suggested Projects**

It was agreed that we should keep a contingency fund of £2000 and then spend other monies on the following:

- a) Upkeep of scooters, as already mentioned.
- b) Ask our park users what they would like to see in the park or what facilities would be welcome.
- c) Newsletter for Autumn 2015.
- d) Ronnie Pollard suggested willow trail possibly in Thanet Lee Wood. Possibly have workshops to produce items for this. Ronnie and Susan Barker to liaise with Eco Arts and visit sites and report back at January meeting.
- e) Bench for the Deerpond, possibly metal seat. . . . to be ordered a.s.a.p.

A.O.B. As we now have access to the Bowling Club Meeting Room (and there are fewer Hall staff on duty during the winter closures) the **January 14th mtg., (10 am)** and **March 11th mtg., (10 am)** are to be at the Bowling Club Meeting Room. Thursday 14th May (10 am) meeting to be at the Hall as usual.

Meeting closed at 1 pm