

**Minutes of Friends of Queens Park , Thursday 20 January 2014 at 19.00**

1. **Present at meeting:** Tony Halifax, Jane Armstrong, Vivienne McGregor, Alyn Walsh, Nicola Diamond, Mark Foster, Jack Devine  
**Apologies:** Jim McGregor, Yvonne Murray, Raymond Armstrong

Item	Discussion	Action
2. Agree previous minutes	The minutes of the January meeting were read and agreed	All present
3. Treasurer's Report	The Treasurers report was read and approved	
4. Media and Communications	Webpage – first draft has been received. A few minor amendments to be made. A “Feedback” page to be added to allow input from viewers. The website should be up and running before next meeting.	
5. Draft schedule of events and projects	<p><b>Park clean-up to be undertaken:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date and time confirmed – 9:45am on Saturday 29 March</li> <li>• Meeting at Victoria Road main entrance to the park</li> <li>• Jack Devine of LES to provide tools and equipment</li> <li>• Info to be put onto Facebook</li> <li>• Photos to be taken for publicity</li> </ul>	
5. City Park Status/Park funding	<p><b>Discussion on how this can be achieved for Queen's Park</b></p> <p>Points raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inequality of funding between “City” parks and “Regional” parks within Greater Glasgow</li> <li>• Criteria for deciding if a park is City or Regional                      Use of the park has increased over the years, including the Southside Festival and the Farmers Market, therefore the footfall/facilities criteria would now seem to be on a par with other, better-funded parks.</li> <li>• Whether to campaign for City park status for QP or to press for more equal allocation of GCC funding across all parks, regardless of status.</li> <li>• Further discussion to be held at future meetings.</li> </ul>	

<p>6. Involvement with Land and Environmental Services (LES)</p>	<p><b>Issues raised with Jack Devine:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LES/GCC communication with Friends of Parks groups As GCC are becoming aware of the expectation of Friends groups they are becoming more willing to consult and provide information to the groups. However there is still a need to remind them and request information – so still room for improvement.</li> <li>• Tree maintenance and planning within the park Tree maintenance was discussed – the skills of those dealing with the trees are inadequate, resulting in un-necessary damage to this major resource.</li> <li>• GCC Draft Parks Management Plan This appears to be on hold as so many objections have been received to various elements of the plan.</li> <li>• Park maintenance planning</li> <li>• Green Flag Award – criteria and issues</li> <li>• Safety – icy conditions on pathways</li> <li>• Drainage/Flooding around the ponds Some of this is likely to be alleviated with the construction of the Shieldhall Tunnel under the park – commencing in 2015.</li> <li>• Path maintenance</li> </ul> <p>The time for discussion of many of these issues ran out, so will be carried over until the next meeting.</p>	
<p>7. Recruitment of members and volunteers</p>	<p>The mailbox/café leaflet drop has resulted in several new people joining the facebook group, and two new members attending the meeting. There are now approximately 154 facebook supporters.</p>	
<p>8. AOB</p>	<p>There was no further business to discuss.</p>	
<p>10. Dates and times for next meetings</p>	<p><b>Tuesday 18 March - 7:00pm - at Langside Hall</b> The 2014 meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at Langside Hall. 15 April, 20 May, 17 June, 15 July, 19 August, 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 15 December</p>	