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| **Minutes of Friends of Queens Park, held on Tuesday, 18th July, 2023 at Wellcroft Bowling Club, Queen’s Drive, Glasgow** | | http://www.friendsofqueensparkglasgow.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/logo.png | |
| **Present at meeting**: Susan Readman (Chair), Gail McCulloch, Morna Gourlay, Liz Todd, Marnie Silver, Alison Brown, Tamsin Omond, Calum Tomeny, Richard Dye and Janet Muir  **Apologies:** Caithlin McConville | | | |
| **Item** | **Discussion** | | **Action** |
| 1. Previous minutes | Approved. | |  |
| 2. Matters Arising | **Park Working Group**  Feasibility Study of the Park – discussion on how best to compile FoQP priorities for the Park. Agreed it would be beneficial to consult the wider FoQP community via facebook survey. Need to agree questions, analysis and report back to committee at next meeting on 19th September.  Richard asked for circulation of Briefing for consultancy of undertaking Feasibility Study.  **Action**  Alison, Morna and Tamsin to design and circulate survey asap with timescale to enable report back for 19th September.  Janet to circulate Briefing of consultancy along with minutes of this meeting.  **Scottish Poetry/Rose Garden – Event 20th July**  Marnie and Tamsin have organised and promoted the poetry event throughout facebook, posters etc. All welcome to attend and read poetry either self-penned or produced by other poets.  **Action:**  Marnie and Tamsin with help from Marnie’s friend Esther to set up event on the night. Others to support with attendance.  **Children’s Playground**  No further update.  **Digital Report**  Calum updated on migration of digital account to Micro-soft. Migration to be completed by end of July with all relevant committee members able to access account.  Marnie highlighted the Micro-soft package offers of wide range of facilities that can be explored on an ongoing basis.  Gail mentioned that current provider Ubisan has submitted Invoice for next year; it was agreed that Ubisan should be advised that services will now cease along with an appreciative letter highlighting ‘thank-you’ for past services.  Calum advised on his new ideas for over-hauling website and asked about contacting volunteer Peter Batty who currently updates FoQP’s website.  **Action:**  Calum to investigate range of facilities offered within the Micro-soft package and further look at possible changes to website.  Gail to send Calum current Invoice from Ubisan.  Janet to send Calum Peter Batty’s e-address.  **Social Media Strategy**  Tamsin updated on promotion of activities, photographs etc. on facebook. Tamsin is happy to receive any interesting information that members would like to share with wider FoQP community, preferably via phone – 07878 535 968. Exploration of use of Instagram is ongoing.  **Wildlife Walk**  Following on from her very interesting Wildlife Walk in April, Alison is happy to lead another walk, preferably before all young birds fledge and leave nests. Agreed that walk is arranged for **Thursday 3rd August, meeting 6 pm,** meeting at spot where ‘Clyde’ used to be next to Big Pond  **Action:**  Alison to send text (and photograph if possible) to Tamsin to promote on facebook. Anyone else available to promote via posters round park?  **AGM – 21st November**  Organisation of AGM should be prioritised at next Committee Meeting in September. In meantime, agreed to check out suitable venues and speakers.  **Action**  Janet to contact Councillor Holly Bruce to identify relevant GCC Officer to speak on maintenance of ‘healthy ponds’ in Glasgow parks.  Janet to approach ‘The Point’ and another Church on Queen’s Drive for suitability and charges (check out name of church with Morna). | | MS/TO/AB/CT/MG/JM |
| 3. Treasurer’s Report | Gail reported on current balance - £6,590.61  Gail is currently pulling together relevant information for OSCR 22/23 Report and approaching external assessor of accounts. | | GMc |
| 4. Recruitment of Treasurer & Secretary | Gail and Janet were delighted to report on a successful meeting with Isla Gildea who is keen to take on the Treasurer’s Role. Isla has a background in finance and uses the Park on a regular basis. Gail will work with Isla to take over administration of finance in particular change of signatures for accounts, maintaining financial records etc. and preparing report to OSCR. Isla is happy to attend next month’s meeting to introduce herself to committee members.  The Secretary’s role has still to be filled and it was agreed to re-advertise on facebook and website. Failing a positive response, it is hoped that someone will come forward from management committee, volunteer group or at AGM. | | JM/GMc/TO |
| 5. Volunteering with FoQP | Discussion on positive ways of developing support and recruitment of volunteers. The current FoQP Volunteer Policy was agreed in 2021 and requires reviewing and updating. As FoQP is managed by volunteers together with all services being delivered by volunteers, it was recognised the need for clarity in supporting a clear expectation of what volunteers can do. Further, it would be useful to consider training opportunities for volunteers.  **Action**  Marnie and Richard to pursue review of Volunteer Policy and Practice. | | MS/RD |
| 6. Wildlife Pond – water supply & clearance of debris | Evident for several years the poor water condition of Wildlife Pond. Morna highlighted the history going back to 2015 – lobbying GCC to review their decision to turn off fresh water supply feeding into the pond. This was never done, resulting in the water often becoming stagnant with litter and branch debris making the problem worse.  Susan advised that a volunteer was interested to start clearing the pond along with help from another Friend’s Group – ‘Dams to Darnley’. It was felt that the Parks Dpt. should be involved in the clearance and agreed to contact Park Manager and Neighbourhood Manager to ask for support in clearing the pond.  **Action**  Susan to contact Park Manager, Jack Devine and Seamus Connolly, Neighbourhood Manager to arrange a suitable time for all parties involved for clearance of the pond. | |  |
| 7. Funding Applications | Funding application has been submitted to Glasgow Airport Fund for £600s towards soil and planting.  Still await decision on Mushroom Trust application.  **Action**  Janet to pursue decision from Mushroom Trust and identify other potential funding sources for soil and planting and any other identified initiatives. | | JM |
| 8. AOCB | **Multi-Use Games Area**  Chris Blackmore, park user had contacted FoQP for support in raising the poor state of the Multi-Use Games Area, adjacent to Queen’s Drive. He had been put in contact with Neighbourhood Manager and invited along to tonight’s committee meeting. | | SR |
| 9. DONM | Tuesday 19th September, 2023 at Wellcroft Bowling Club | |  |