

DRAFT MINUTES

FRIENDS OF ROSEBURN PARK BOARD MEETING AT DOVE CAFE ON WEDNESDAY 12 APRIL 2017

Present : Pete Gregson, Valerie Forbes, Hamish Ross, Kim Rowse, John Yellowlees

1. Apologies : Barbara Knowles, Neil Gardiner

2. Minutes of 1 March meeting and Matters Arising

ii) advice was sought a year ago on a trim-trail with no response

iii) buildings had been painted to remove graffiti.

iv) House of Hound had agreed to take a FoRP collecting tin.

Quiet Route through the Park : a majority had proved supportive of measures to encourage cycling, and the project was going ahead unamended as a three-month trial for delivery on completion of the flood prevention works. HR would report through the FoRP website that the report was now available and PG would ask Martin Ings what were the Council's criteria for success.

ACTION : PG

3. Water of Leith Stakeholder Group : 24 April meeting now cancelled. Saughtonhall Avenue closing until end-August. Completion likely to be in November.

4. Tree-planting meeting feedback : meeting on 6 March had established that there could be no planting on the bund. A couple of areas near the bund could however be planted, and the Council had gone out to tender as it was obliged to replace lost trees, but one owner had put up his land for sale, so a new location would be needed for the Monkey Puzzle. The Council were trying to bounce back to SRU how to make boundary land safe with deterrent vegetation, but ownership did not lie with SRU.

5. Improvement Plan - updates

a. toilet block issues : several potential funders would not support a project to house a business use, and the Council's demand of £1500 for a lease was perhaps the last straw. With no potential end-user in place, KR would check out a report (for which she would need the floor area) that Just Enterprise might fund if a cafe was set up as a separate entity, and if FoRP could not get the architect to help with pricing on toilet block drawings, PG would ask him for the CAD drawings, etc Subject to the outcome of these, PG would advise the Council that while FoRP's work had been valuable in exposing the issues, the project had now reached the end of the road since it was no longer viable for the Friends to take on a lease – with the possibility of challenging the Council itself to find a use or else pay for demolition. ACTIONS : KR/PG (Note : EB Scotland has subsequently indicated that it would accept a funding bid that included the legal fees, thus overtaking the above discussion if three quotations could be provided.)

b. tree-seat funding bid news : three suppliers had indicated prices all in the vicinity of £2k. If neither ScotRail nor the Coop came up with funding to match MCC's contribution, PG would ask Ritchie Fraser for support from the Council's benches budget. He would also ask Stephen Webley to look for a suitable oak, and would admit to the donor that the original one had been stolen. ACTION : PG

c. new play area : currently out to tender as floodworks contractor was not interested - the Council would be notifying neighbours when they knew that work was going to start, which might not be before the autumn. Question as to where budget was being held, HR would now ask for an update.

ACTION : HR

d. old play area : 45 responses to a Facebook poll had produced ticks in the following boxes :
an outdoor gym 62% (these can be seen at the Union Canal, Cramond and the Meadows)
wildflower garden 42%
outdoor classroom 42%
40% basketball
28% petanque.

HR would pass these responses to DS

ACTION : HR

e. bench seats : there were currently 3 existing seats to be relocated and one in storage, and clarification was required on proposed new locations. **ACTION : PG**

6. Wanderers update – the Club were not responding to emails, but Cllr Frank Ross was going to speak to them and reportedly now favoured a move to Union Park at Carrick Knowe rather than to Roseburn Park. Paul Clancy had advised that adjoining owners would be in a position to object to any proposals by Wanderers, and the majority of those people were known by the FORP board.

7. Neil leaving Board - PG spoke of FoRP's gratitude to Neil Gardiner for pressing the concept of the Vision, and said that Neil had asked to be kept informed of developments. His date of departure was 1 March. It was agreed that KR would replace him as a Trustee.

8. AOCB – the Council's structure of environmental partnerships gave an opportunity to share best practice with other Friends, but it was not known whether the Western Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership would continue after the Council election or be merged with North Edinburgh.

9. Next meeting : 24 May, when HR would be unable to attend. PG would attend

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