

MINUTES

FRIENDS OF ROSEBURN PARK BOARD MEETING

17th January, 2018

1. **Present:** Board members: Val Forbes, Pete Gregson, Barbara Knowles, Hamish Ross, John Yellowlees and volunteer Paul Harding. Apologies from Kim Rowse.
2. **Matters arising from December Meeting :**
 - i) Graffiti – The meeting of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership had not yet taken place. So no decision has been made on the Community Council application for funding for a removal kit.
 - ii) Signage within the Park – Barbara and Val had met with Robert Smith from Sustrans and Fiona Underhill that morning. It was agreed there was considerable scope to rationalise the number of poles and signs including those for the Water of Leith Walkway. Robert Smith would further consult FoRP on the signage once he had done further work.
AP : BK & VF
 - iii) Bulb Planting – This had been successfully completed during the morning of Sunday 17th December. So thanks to all those who assisted. A note of thanks had also been placed on the website.
 - iv) Trees at Riversdale – Due to changes to cabling for street lighting, 3 out of the 4 spaces would be planted, with the other space paved over.
3. **Water of Leith Flood Prevention Scheme :**
 - i) Lockable Bollard – A replacement bollard at Roseburn Place entrance would be included in the Flood Prevention works budget.
 - ii) Trees & Tree Plan – A revised Tree Plan had been received from Ruthe Davies, the Council Tree Officer. Barbara indicated the substance of the works proposed. The 2 Monkey Puzzle trees had been included and accepted for planting. Paul suggested that consideration might be given to planting, if possible, a Corstorphine Sycamore specimen. It was also noted that the proposed trees at the back of the Armoury would be on ground used for Events in the Park. Perhaps these trees could be planted elsewhere, and maybe where it says 'Other' on the plan. Barbara queried the use of Turkey Oak, as there could be problems with Gall Wasps and native British Oaks. Otherwise the Plan was accepted and Board Members were pleased for FoRP to help out with finding space for Serbian Spruce.
AP : BK to write to RD on changes suggested and plan timings.
 - iii) Hedges – The hawthorn hedge beside the Ice Rink bund had not yet been planted. It was unclear when this would take place. There was also some suggestions about use of pyrocantha.

AP: BK to write to DW and copy in Fiona Underhill and Ruthe Davies on who would be doing this work and when.

- iv) Central Planter – Fiona Underhill had made several suggestions on what should happen to this area. Currently it was an eyesore. It was agreed that Parks team would strip out all plants and replant only the heathers. It was unclear what the purpose of the ‘twigs’ was.
AP : BK to write to FU.
- v) Flower Bed at Roseburn Place – A rose garden is not feasible due to maintenance costs. After discussion it was concluded that the bed should be oval in shape and that herbaceous plants be planted. Plants which had colour, good ground cover and last more than a week or two.
AP : BK to write to Fiona Underhill with decisions and ask that FoRP be consulted on draft design.
- vi) Official Opening of Flood Prevention Scheme – Val had been invited to represent FoRP on Wednesday 24th at 10.30 a.m.

4. **Improvement Plan Update :**

- a) Café – Pete reported that he had provided a further contractor for the architect to consider for an additional quotation. Hamish agreed to become involved in chasing up builders.
AP : PG to further pursue with the architect
Barbara reported that ASDA Community Funding might be approached to obtain funding for the works. Details to be sent to Pete.
- b) Tree Bench – Designs had been forthcoming from the tree carver and circulated. The seat would be sited at the entrance to the Play Area. It was decided that a squirrel should not be included but a leaf design to be included. A non-symmetrical design was preferred, with a slope at one end and a raised seating block part-way down. The aim should be to create something with play value.
AP : HR agreed to liaise with the tree carver and to visit the work onsite at Inverleith Park, once the carver had started carving.
- c) New Play Area – No news.

5. **Notice boards/Signage**

It was decided to accept neither the 2 large notice boards left behind by the Flood Prevention Contractors nor the smaller notice board from Scottish Gas.

AP : BK to write to DW and FU to get rid of all 3 notice boards.

6. **Edinburgh Friends of Parks and Cemeteries Forum**

An invitation had been received to attend the next meeting on Monday 29th January. This had been previously circulated. Paul volunteered to attend.

AP : BK to write to John Kerr, chair of the group

7. Wanderers

They had been given an extension by SRU to staying on the back greens. It was unclear what further progress had been made.

AP : HR to suggest a meeting.

8. Bank Account

Hamish reported there was nothing further at present but that he would explore the problem and report back.

9. Any Other Competent Business

Rotary Club Corstorphine had invited Pete to a meeting on 8th May. John reported from his recent meeting with them that they had no money but could provide a bed of purple crocuses relating to their work on eradication of polio. It was decided that this could be placed close to the Riversdale entrance. Planting season would be the autumn of 2018.

AP : PG agreed to do a talk about the Park on 8th May to the Club.

Newsletter – This was now due. Ideas for inclusion to be suggested.

10. Dates of Next Meetings

14th March, 18th April and 30th May.