

FRIENDS OF WINDMILL GARDENS GENERAL MEETING

7PM, 21st APRIL 2016

ST PAUL'S COMMUNITY CENTRE, 24 BLENHEIM GARDENS SW2 5BZ

MINUTES

Actions

- Renew membership with local history forum
- Provision of new notice board (next Executive Committee to consider)

1. WELCOME

Thank you to all those attending particularly new and renewed members.

Present Members: Annick Alet, Sujata Biswas (secretary), Paul Bolton, Jean Kerrigan (chair), Ann Lee, Owen Llewellyn, Liz du Parcq, Chris Patton, Alan Piper, Antonia Powell, Magdalen Rubalcava, Jeff Thomas, Sandra Watts, Nick Weedon (vice chair) Viv Whittingham, Laura Zauli

Volunteers: Glynis Brooks,

Apologies: Henry Ashby, Dee Byrne, Donna Lister, Nicola Sloan, Julie Vickers, Ben Webster, Carolyn Weniz, Shaun Wilson (Treasurer), Kim Winter, Michael Penny (Lambeth Parks Officer), Toussainte Reba, Penny Steele.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Minutes from November 2016 General Meeting as true record.

3. UPDATE ON FOWG ACTIVITY SINCE LAST GENERAL MEETING incl. PROGRESS ON EDUCATION BUILDING – Jean

Was disappointing that there was no progress in 2015 on the development of an education building to support the education programme which had been such a success. Lambeth are, at least, committed until the end of 2020 to pay for maintenance of the windmill.

The petition seeking to encourage Lambeth to release the education building funding had approx 600 handwritten signatures (inc letters of support) and about 300 signatures from the e-petition. It resulted in a feasibility study being set up.

There are four options for an education building to be explored

- (1) joint building with Holmewood Nursery inc extension
- (2) new joint building
- (3) two separate buildings
- (4) use of a Thames Water land gift

Lambeth have issued a tender document about conducting a consultation on the four options. The process is to complete by the end of summer 2016, so that will be when there will be a proposal for Lambeth to consider.

Lambeth have received an offer from Architects, Squires & Partners, through an introduction from FoWG Cultural Ambassador, Mark Eley.

Other updates include a new Lambeth Parks Officer, Michael Penny, who had already started to meeting with the Parks Group. Lambeth Parks and Green Space Forum who are concerned about the extensive budget cuts for parks is putting together a 'Parks Charter' to be discussed in May and then submitted to the council.

New Press Officer – Dee Byrne – whose publicity work is already having a real impact on visitor numbers. Recent coverage has included an interview on BBC Radio London and listings in Time Out.

Aims for the year:

- raise the profile of the Windmill
- firm date on the establishment of an education building

- maintain park Green Flag status
- launch of flour sale

Big thank you to Friends and volunteers for their commitment and time.

4. WINDMILL 200TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS – Viv

Ambitious programme to celebrate 200th anniversary. The first was the treasure hunt on Easter Saturday, with around 80 participants.

Next is the Beer and Bread Festival on May 2nd – bank holiday Monday

We are planning an open air film show in June

The Parade and Festival (Sunday 26th June) will be a 'Trades' Fair' with at least 10 confirmed stall inc. three tied to workshops. Will have a blacksmiths, florist, coffee tasting, and bread-making, anti-bullying, and bee-keeping.

This may be the last year of the Festival.

In September, there will be a public lecture as part of Lambeth Heritage Festival, with speaker Simon Hudson.

The Heritage Walks, devised and led by Liz du Parcq continue.

There will a 'windmill in 16 objects' blog project.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – Nick (standing in for Shaun)

Income has increased compared to last year. Draft report indicated balance of around £18K for end of March (was approx £8k in previous year)

Report will require auditing

Cashless payment is being made available. Will require card reader and till.

6. REPORT FROM SUB-GROUPS

Comms Preparing an new FoWG film, to premier at the outdoor film event

Sustainability received funding from Awards for All for Festival, also a grant for free tai chi on Saturday morning and 'love your roots' to fund parks workshops

Parks Proud recipient of the Green Flag

Also looking to have a preserve making workshop – hopefully September, with summer fruits (postponed from last year given the destruction of the fruit bushes)

7. AOB

Next General Meeting will be the AGM – proposed date Wednesday 29th June 2016.