

Minutes FOPP Nov 17th 2016

Present: Ron Doran, Katy Gardner (Chair), Ingrid Watts, Marilyn Williams, Paul Slater, Pat Bragg, Martin Bragg. Apols Lis Davidson
Minutes of last meeting: accepted. Matters Arising: all on agenda

1.Future of parks: Steve Munby, Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods, spoke about the Green and Open Space Review Board report and work around parks. Some recommendations in the report are already in the pipeline e.g. new play areas. Others are being actively pursued – Green Web, One Tree for Child, Forest Schools. The report recommended exploring a Trust model. Steve indicated that a Heritage Lottery bid was being pursued to support work exploring this option. There were a number of options in finding ways through the financial pressures on parks. A Trust or several Trusts was one. Having looked at this Steve was sceptical that it would work. The single Trust model requires a significant capital investment to provide a dowry and it was not obvious where this would come from. Having previously favoured looking at handing over several of the larger parks to individual Trusts he was now doubtful that this was the best route. Transferring parks to a Trust involves a large amount of legal work which might be better spent raising income, and transfers to a Trust were rather irrevocable. Another option being explored for some larger parks such as Croxteth and Stanley parks was to recruit a partner to manage a park, supervised by a local stakeholder forum. Steve provides a written report to meetings of the Neighbourhood Select Committee, which can be found online at www.liverpool.gov.uk These provide more detailed and regular reports on parks.

2.Tree work past and present: Two very successful days were held in October Volunteers accomplished all work that was needed, A further pruning session to be held 3rd December. Tree group to organise. Poster in park. Marilyn will put up.

Tree Group to plan further work for Sat 7th and Sat 14th January 2017

3. Mandela memorial - no further news at present: but recent visit from CEO of Mandela foundation who loved the park.

4. Park Projects/meetings/walks/events- Sponsored walk on 10th December by SKT Welfare, a charity to help the Yemeni and Somali communities.

5. AOB

- Katy asked if anyone could help to restart Twitter
- A Spring walk to be held - date to be fixed.
- FOPP has money from Council environmental grant, (for tools for tree work). Ingrid to buy loppers and hand saw.
- A grant scheme supported by City Council will double any money raised by FOPP. Someone has to apply. Katy will find out more.
- Fundraising to be discussed at the next meeting.

**FOPP Executive Meeting to be held at Katy's Tuesday 31st January 2017
Next Meeting 16th March 2017 6pm at Crawford House.**