

Minutes from FoPP AGM Sunday 9th August 2015

Present: Katy Gardner (Chair), Pat Bragg, Lis Davidson (joint secretaries), Fraser Robertson (website wonder), Barbara and Ron Doran, Ingrid Watts (tree group), Marilyn Williams, Ian Lawson, Martin Bragg, Colette Mills, Dan Jewell, Anstey Gilley, Steve Philip. and at the beginning of meeting, Steve Mumby and Sonia Bassey.

Apologies: Jon Woolf (Treasurer), Robert Marten (tree group), Paul Slater (wildlife expert) Maggie Egan (litter picker extraordinaire) and Val Price.

Steve Mumby (local councillor for Dingle and Council Cabinet member for parks) opened the meeting with a brief thank you to the group from the council for the work we do in Princes Park.

Sonia Bassey then talked about the plans for a legacy honouring Nelson Mandela. She and Stephen Nze head up a group organised following local spontaneous reactions to Mandela's death. The group has a face book page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/758343264194812/?ref=ts&fref=ts>. This face-book page approximately 1700 members and Steven Pienaar South African International and Everton FC footballer and Howard Gayle former Liverpool FC players are patrons. The Group is due to host a visit from Nelson Mandela's grandson Ndaba. The Group has is half way to its phase 1 target of £20K and once this milestone has been reached they will be able to appoint a project manager and develop the artists brief and commission an artist in residence to undertake consultation and develop designs for a memorial to be hosted in Princes Park.

People present responded positively to Sonia's presentation and asked a number of questions which lead to Sonia to add that the Liverpool Biennial committee were also interested.

Timescales: it was hoped to have the artist chosen in time for their work to coincide with next year's biennial in 2016, and thus hoping the memorial might happen by 2018-9.

A number of FOPP members raised the issues of the island being used and the need to think carefully about the impact this would have on wildlife and the young people who currently use the island. We need advice from Paul Slater and to discuss the plans with the young people.

Sonia then had to leave and we moved on after a brief break for picnic food to the AGM proper.

1. Minutes of last AGM were agreed unanimously.
2. Chair's report was circulated and Katy went through it briefly - it can be viewed on our website <http://www.friendsofprincespark18.org.uk/FOPP%20annual%20report%202014-5.pdf>. Katy also wanted to extend thanks to various other people and organisations not mentioned in her report - Crawford house where we have our quarterly meetings (see below for date of next one) also Derek Dottie, Tom Duckworth and Nigel Sharp who previously worked at Liverpool City Council parks dept. They have all now left but have been hugely supportive of our group over the years. Ingrid also commented that on a recent walk round the park the parks people present were all very positive about us as a friends group that they enjoyed working with.
3. Treasurer's report was circulated, Katy presented it in John's absence, a question was asked about the BCTV insurance - this insures the volunteers who join us for work in the park - e.g. tree and bulb planting and tree thinning. The meeting accepted the accounts.
4. Election of officers: Katy thanked all the present exec and stated we were all up for re- election, and that if anyone wanted to join us that would be good as we are a relatively small group. The meeting happily agreed to all being re-elected as well as the offers from Dan Jewell, Marilyn Williams and Steve Philip to join us. Dan agreed to nominate everyone apart from himself, Lis agreed to nominate Dan, and Ingrid seconded all the nominations.
5. Times and venues of future meetings
 - A. **Next FoPP quarterly meeting**
 - planned for **NOVEMBER - Thursday 19th at 6pm at Crawford House** *this may need to be earlier depending on the outcome of the Friends Park Forum (see 6H below)*
 - B. **Tree walk - Saturday 10th OCTOBER at 11am - meet at Sunburst Mandela gates**

- C. **Tree thinning work** - last **Saturday NOVEMBER - 28th** and first on of the **New Year - 3rd January - both starting after run - so 10.30/11am.**
- D. **Tree planting** ... Watch this space but there are plans a foot... **Will be in late autumn...**
- 6. **Planned events and projects** - FoPP and others... Katy the listed the first three things
 - E. We have been talking with Friends of Birkenhead Park re a joint bid: 'Paxton 150'. This would include a trail to join the two parks, working with two local schools to get the children visiting each others parks, doing art work relating to their visits, which will feed in to some textile art work which can be exhibited in both places. There would also be a Paxton 150 website and a Paxton day. They are helping us with the bid for this, and if successful we will keep you all informed.
 - F. Mandela memorial - as per Sonia's talk described above.
 - G. Future of parks in Liverpool - the Green spaces review and the Friends Park Forum will be meeting soon and a report will follow... Katy circulated a few paper copies of a separate council survey which can be completed by anyone - was circulated recently in an email.
 - H. Steve Philips who had come in place of Val Price, to tell us about **the L8ed festival** which is being organised by 'Proud of Liverpool' (based at Sefton Park Day Centre on Lark Lane) in Princes Park on **Saturday OCTOBER 24th - 8am to 8pm** - they are hoping for around 500 people for a Fun day following a more serious day at the Florrie discussing getting jobs into the area. They plan to have 5 a side football, a game of Human Chess, poetry, a fashion diorama and much else beside... They may be asking for volunteers for the day.
- 7. **Any other business**
 - Katy reported that Maggie Egan (litter picker extraordinaire) had asked if we could organise a mass litter pick around the lake - so we could get difficult to get litter without anyone falling in - lis suggested trying to co-ordinate this with the volunteer student week.
 - Ian mentioned that Fruit trees near the sunny side entrance were in need of bramble clearing, there was a brief discussion about whether these might be protecting the apples and we needed to choose bramble clearing to coincide with when apples might be ripe... No clear decision made - exec please remember
 - Ingrid mentioned the need to encourage forest schools, she agreed to chase up our link with St Silas as previous contact had lapsed...
 - Fraser mentioned that anything anyone wanted to put on the website, please send to him - either via an email to katy or to the friendsofprincesparkl8@gmail.com
 - And an idea was raised re further plays in the park and making contact with Liverpool theatre network... Again for exec to follow up...

Meeting ended with some of us going over to the small whips of trees planted last year over by the Ullet road garage to pull grass from around them to help them flourish.