Friends of Finchley Way Open Space



Minutes of Trustees meeting 14 January 2025

Present: Richard Bartholomew, Arlette Garcia, Karen Goodman (Treasurer), Suzanne King (Chair), Samuel Levy.

Apologies: Simon Dukes, Nick Dimant, Hilda de Souza, Ross Houston.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Accepted and will be put on the website.

ACTION KG

2. Financial report

There was currently £3,879.61 in the bank.

The invoice sent to LBB Finance for the tree labels from Bradenham Hall was for £4 more than the final cost. It's not clear how this happened but there was some confusion over the submission of the invoice. Suzanne and Karen to find out how to refund the £4.

ACTION SK/KG

3. Trustees

3.1 Recruitment

So far there has been no response to the email advertising trustee vacancies. Notices were put on the gates on Sunday (12 January) and in the Finchley Lawn Tennis Club clubhouse.

Further action agreed:

- All current volunteers to be asked
- Finchley Horticultural Society to be asked to circulate
- Post to be put on WFRA and FoFWOS Facebook groups
- Woodside Park Synagogue to be asked
- Talk at West Finchley Residents Association February meeting
- Circulate to the Finchley Society

ACTION ALL

The possibility of a leaflet drop to be discussed at the next meeting depending on results of current actions.

There was a discussion about whether to continue as a charity or to become just a Friends group and the differences. It was agreed to continue to try to recruit new trustees at this stage.

3.2 Trustee insurance

This has been renewed from 18 January 2025 under the devolved powers to the Executive Committee. The cost was £142.

4. Artifacts

It was agreed that the artifacts found on the site will be donated to HADAS (Hendon and District Archaeology Society).

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It was also agreed that the sketch of Brent Lodge by Hugh Spencer will be donated to the Finchley Society, along with a note about Hugh.

ACTION SK

5. Annual consultation

Draft report agreed and will be put on the website

ACTION KG

6. Annual report to the Charity Commission

This was agreed and will be submitted with the accounts information added.

ACTION SK/KG

7. Trees

It was agreed to leave putting up the tree labels until spring when the leaves will make it easier to identify the trees.

We are still waiting for LBB tree contractors to make contact. Suzanne to chase.

ACTION SK

7. Dates of next Board meetings

New Board meeting dates for the remainder of the year were agreed:

22 April

22 July

8 October

10. AOB

10.1 Top left-hand corner of Field

There was discussion of possible projects to enhance this area of the Field. A major problem is the bricks that lie only a few inches below the surface. It was agreed that at the next work party session on 9 February, that test holes will be dug to explore planting possibilities.

ACTION ALL

11. For information

11.1 Green flag

This has been abandoned as we are not eligible for the Community Away as we do not have full control over the space, this rests with the Council. I see no point in applying for the main Green Flag Award as we do not have any facilities, which is the basis on which points are awarded.

11.2 Fly tipping

Unlikely anything will be done about fly tipping in the Copse because of budget cuts.