



Minutes of Trustee Meeting 9th January 2023

1. Welcome

Present: Richard Bartholomew, Hilda de Souza (Membership Secretary), Simon Duke, Nick Dimant (Deputy Chair), Arlette Garcia, Karen Goodman (Treasurer), Ross Houston, Suzanne King (Chair), Samuel Levy

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 Comments/Corrections

Minutes accepted and revised with the corrections detailed in the agenda for this meeting. The minutes have been updated accordingly.

3. Financial report

3.1 Summary

Cash in bank of £7,280.90 was reported. A special note of thanks to Karen for her birthday fundraiser that raised approximately £75.

3.2 Financial budget 2023

For this financial year, starting 1 January 2023, it was agreed to move all the underspends into unrestricted funding as all the relevant funders have said that trustees can use the money on the site as they see fit. **ACTION KG**

4. Trustee insurance

It was agreed that the trustee insurance should be renewed. **ACTION KG**

5. Projects

5.1 The Orchard

It was agreed that the work already in progress should continue to fine tune the layout of the mounds at the heart of the Orchard. Due to their unsustainable nature, no more cobbles would be purchased, but the cobbles already in place would be moved to the gaps in the centre to provide a variety of textures. It was agreed that clumps of lavender, sage and creeping and standard thyme should be planted around the edge of the mounded area. The RHS recommend that these kinds of herbs should be planted in April or May.

It was agreed that the seeds should be sown in late March or early April.

5.2 The Green Field

It was agreed that the wildflower seed balls should be sown at the top of the field in late March or early April. Karen reported that she expected them to become available in the next few weeks.



Friends of Finchley Way Open Space

It was agreed that in the February work party some exploratory holes should be dug at the top of the field to see if it is possible to plant the whips that can be obtained from the Woodland Trust.

5.3 The Copse

It was agreed that having a bug house made up of old pallets would be highly desirable. It was agreed that Richard would investigate the design and location of the bug house.

ACTION RB

6. Future funding

6.1 The Conservation Volunteers

It was noted that due to the funds already held we were not currently eligible for funding for tools and it was agreed that we would not apply for funding until we became eligible.

It was agreed though that more tools were needed.

Suzanne would try and get more orange shovels from LBB.

ACTION SK

It was agreed that the Chair and Treasurer to agree and Treasurer to purchase any additional tools or replacements that are needed.

ACTION KG

6.2 National Gardens Scheme

It was agreed that a new fernery should be planted and that a good location would be in the Copse at the entry to the Orchard. Given the tight deadline of 31st January 2023 for applications, unrestricted funds could be used for this if necessary.

ACTION SK

It was agreed that the plans for the sensory garden would be put on hold for the time being due to the high cost involved and concerns that watering would be too difficult and the possibility of vandalism

7. Annual consultation

It was agreed that the 2022 annual consultation report should replace the 2021 consultation on the website.

ACTION KG

8. Work parties

8.1 Planning

It was agreed that Nick would create a google sheet where suggestions could be lodged where jobs for next work party could be listed, commented on and agreed. A link would be added to the appropriate FOFWOS WhatsApp groups to make it easy to place posts.

ACTION ND



Friends of Finchley Way Open Space

8.2 Volunteers

It was agreed that Good Gym would be thanked but asked to support different sites for the time being as we are not resourced to manage so many volunteers.

ACTION SK

8.3 Compost area

It was agreed that Suzanne would ask Bob Wheeler for a quote to shred the material in the compost area. The resulting material would be used as a mulch where needed.

ACTION SK

9. Communications

In order to streamline communications it was agreed that the number of WhatsApp groups would be rationalised and reduced to FOFWOS Trustees, FOFWOS Exec, FOFWOS Volunteers and FOFWOS planting. All other groups to be removed.

ACTION SK

10. Events

It was agreed that at the VCS Environment meeting due to be held on 19th January FOWOS should be offered as a destination on the Faith and Peace walk in May/June round the borough.

ACTION ND

11. Dates of 2023 Board Meetings

Dates for the remaining 2023 meetings are:

17 April (AGM, presentation of draft report for Charity Commission.) Hybrid meeting for those unable to attend in person.

3 July (to sign-off report for the Charity Commission) Online only.

9 October, Online only.

12. AOB

Relevant items included in minutes above.