

Friends of Stables Lane (FOSL) Working Group

Draft Minutes

Meeting 7pm Tuesday March 7th 2023, Committee Room, Boston Spa Village Hall

Attendance

Sara King	Yes	Andy Colledge	Yes
Kevin Alderson	Yes	Keith Jackson	Yes
Scott Courts	Yes	Alasdair Rattray	No
Lynn Beckwith	Yes	John Backhouse	Yes

Minutes

1. Comments from the public

There were no member of the public in attendance.

2. Approval of last meetings minutes.

The minutes were approved.

3. Chairman's report

3.1 SK confirmed that Martin House had said that their Glow Walk last year was very successful and that they would like to hold the event again using Stables Lane Park and that the PC had agreed to let them use the park without having to pay a fee, as they are a local charity. All the FOSL members were happy with this.

3.2 SK confirmed that permission had been approved for removal of the tree and hedge at the park entrance, to be undertaken as part of the work to improve the safety issues around the park entrance. The hedge may not be fully cut down at this point if birds are already nesting in it as we have already entered the nesting season. The FOSL group members then briefly discussed various approaches to screen off a separate car and pedestrian entrance. As we are not at this stage yet, we decided to leave it until we are, but the FOSL group would like to have some say in the possible options to be considered. **Action: SK to ask the PC about this.**

3.3 SK confirmed that the PC did not approve payment of an annual renewal fee of £360 + VAT for the Green Flag Award scheme.

3.4 SK confirmed that replacement of the litter bin near the gazebo which teenagers vandalised will be replaced.

3.5 The yellow recycling bin which LCC had placed in the car park may be moved to Millennium Gardens if an additional one can't be obtained.

4. Operations, Administration and Finance

4.1 The maintenance group's next meeting was to be Sunday 12th March. There was a discussion about attracting more volunteers. **Action: LB would advertise it on social media.**

4.1.2 There was a brief discussion about the jobs to be undertaken by the maintenance group. The coming Sunday would be a general tidy up and future ones would include the fence repair and replacing of some handles and parts on the play/ gym equipment. It was agreed that the fence repair job could still be handled by the maintenance group, as a PC member had questioned whether it was now too big a job.

4.2 With regard to the litter picking problems and lack of recycling within the park, as the PC had obtained some quotes for possible recycling collections, these were discussed. Most of the companies who quoted recycled plastic bottles and aluminium cans, but only one 'recycled' food waste (industrially composted by way of anaerobic digestion). There was a requirement to consider this as unbeknown to many people, global food waste is an extremely large emitter of carbon and also because it would fit in with the Boston Spa, Wetherby and Villages Community Green Group's (BSW&V CGG) efforts to encourage all of the restaurant and takeaway businesses in the village to move to having their waste responsibly removed and recycled. However as there was a cost, the point was raised about what currently happens to the waste which LCC collect. It was agreed that this should be investigated before any further decisions are made. **Action: SK to try and find out from the Ward Councillors/ LCC about what happens to the waste.**

4.3 As a follow up to the permanent table tennis table idea, LB confirmed that SALT have now taken on a new general manager, so she would approach them again about their interest and contribution intentions regarding this, once the new manager had had a bit of time to settle in. **Action: To be followed up again at the June meeting.**

4.4 JB asked when the defibrillator was to be installed within the park. SC confirmed that it would be the following Wednesday. JB asked if there was to be any training provided for using the defibrillator for some of the key members/ users of the park including the Bowling Club and Tennis Club. It was pointed out that if you ring 999 they can talk you through it but of course things always go more smoothly if people are pre-prepared/ trained. **Action: SK to ask the PC about this.**

5. Nature area / green spaces

5.1. There was no update at the meeting regarding the BSW&V CGG's undertaking with regards to the wildflower meadow.

Update: The BSW&V CGG Trees and Wildlife Corridors Group has been growing some plug plants which will be ready for planting soon.

6. Events and Fundraising

6.1 The Stables Lane Boston Spa Festival event Party in the Park was discussed as the current Festival organiser has already started to hold some festival organisation meetings. LB had said that she didn't think she would have time to commit to organising it this year, but despite asking for a volunteer on the PC e-newsletter and from the Stables Lane volunteer list, no-one had

come forward. LB said she would do it, for which the group was very grateful. There was some very brief discussion about how to go about managing stall holder's pitches and contributions this year. **Action: A meeting is to be set up between LB, SK, KA and the PC clerk to discuss this in more detail. SK to set this up.**

6.2 SK confirmed that the Party in the Park event would again be supporting the BSW&V CGG's vision to become a Plastic Free Community and so the event would be as single use plastic free as possible.

7. Election of new members

7.1 There were proposals to elect two new members – Luke Broadbent as a private member and Geoff Shaw as a representative of the bowling club (see AOB regarding JB no longer holding this position). Both were unable to attend this meeting, but were elected in their absence.

8. AOB

8.1 JB informed the group that, as he had resigned from committee roles within the Bowling Club, he no longer felt in a position to represent the club within the FOSL group and had therefore asked Geoff Shaw (as mentioned above in the election of new members) to undertake this role. However, he said he would still like to remain in the group as a private member, which everyone was very happy to accept.

8.2 There was some brief discussion about the ongoing Church Street Development situation and in particular the importance of access from the St. Mary's School end of the park and the fact that this should be an ambition of the group's to make sure that this was achieved.

Meeting Closed – 8.10 pm

Next Meeting 7pm Tuesday 6th June 2023, Committee room, Boston Spa Village Hall