

LONDON GREEN SPACES FRIENDS GROUPS NETWORK (LFGN)

Committee/Coordination Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 15th October 2018 at City Hall

Those Present: Dave Morris (Chair), Adrian Stannard (Minutes, IT & Treasurer), Kerry Hood (IT), Peter Woodward (Forum Development), Suzanne Morpurgo (Trees & Sport), Symon Knightswood (Dog & Pedestrian Officer), Alice Roberts (CPRE London). **Apologies:** Alona Sheridan (National Park City, Biodiversity)

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting on 16th July were agreed.
2. **Matters Arising:** Item 7 add “including 9 National Green Spaces organisations “ Delete item 13 which duplicates item 11.
3. **Communications:** The web site is running well and Adrian and Kerry continue to tweak it. FB and TW need more attention. Members are contributing stories about their parks. There should be a link between the web site and FB – Adrian to investigate. Currently Mailchimp has two mailing lists – a heritage one (273 addresses 35% open and 3% clicks) and a new one (86 addresses 32% open and 3% clicks) both of which update automatically. The logo needs amending to separate out Greenspaces and Kerry will contact Blanche to see if she has the original and whether it can be amended.

Dave will produce a list of Forum emails and use it to email messages direct to them with help from Alice for Rise Up.

4. Campaigns:

a. Parks Alliance – No report

Our Space – Alice explained she is assessing the progress and a 3 yr. plan is being developed. Work to promote parks was successful and a map of the parks has been created and she needs contributions from users. Alice to produce a feature on an issue similar to the recycling one she has recently put on the CPRE London web site. CPRE applied for a TV lottery grant but were unsuccessful She has collected many video clips and will produce a film of them and it was agreed a Film Festival could be held in Jan/Feb. This led to a discussion about films of Parks and Adrian will invite members to send in links to their videos. It was felt that they had to be on Utube to make them manageable but a page on the web site would be created to display the links. Alice will push visits to parks again. Dave wanted to re-visit the criteria that the Our Space grant had been made to ensure all objectives had been achieved.

b. Go Parks – Alice explained she was considering seeking funding to create a green map showing the location of all parks in conjunction with GiGL or the National Park Project. Dave expressed his concern that this would be unsustainable once the money ran out. He pointed out LFGN probably could only promote it as it does not have the resources to manage large projects.

c. London National Park City: The successful launch event at Conway Hall had been held on the 21st July and was well attended. 3 or 4 of us ran an LFGN stall, and Dave spoke at a plenary. It will be formerly implemented in Spring 2019. Alice will develop a simple message for Friends’ Groups. On the 7th November at 2.30pm there will be a Forum for invited supporters

d. London Plan: The revisions to policies are at the Inquiry stage and Dave has been pushing Green Spaces issues.

e. Parks Action Group: Ticking over. Dave leads the Community Empowerment group. Still arguing for Regional Community Conferences, and also for more real funding for parks everywhere.

f. Woodcock Park: Susanne reported that Theo Thomas had helped to get the brook cleaned and thanked LFGN for their publicity.

g. Health App: Bromley Forum and Lewisham have helped with initial trial.

h. CPRE Newsletter is now linked to LFGN web site.

- i. **Good Parks For London** – an invitation-only annual event to launch the latest Report is planned by Pfl for 28th November at 6.30 and Dave will attend. It is expected to be mainly Borough politicians and officers attending.
 - j. **Charter for Parks** 23 national organisations and 140 local groups have signed. The response from the minister was non-committal. Mail on Sunday has run a strong campaign and petition to save parks and have been successful in getting Government support. A meeting with the Chair of the Select Committee revealed they are considering whether to reconvene the Select Committee to adopt the Charter.
5. **Mayor:** A London Green Spaces Commission has been set up and is largely linked to London Assembly politicians. A Green Infrastructure Partnership made up of and organisations has been set up and Dave has agreed to join. They produced a major report on Green Space eco structures/features. They also produced the Valuation report on the real financial ‘worth’ of London’s greenspace (£94 billion).
6. **Borough Friends Groups’ Surveys** – 3 Boroughs Forums have done their own surveys on the views of their local FGs. 2 are on the LFGN web site. Dave will send the Haringey survey. All Forums could conduct their own.
 7. **Calendar:** will be updated.
 8. **NESTA Community Empowerment / parkscommunityuk** This project to promote community empowerment in greenspaces throughout the UK is now up and running. Dave is co-managing it, based at his park, Lordship Rec. LFGN are supporting. Grant is £145k over 2 yrs. obtained by Friends of Lordship Rec. Will work with up to 15 pilot sites, mainly around London. A website to serve the FGs’ movement will be created to include inspiring and informative case studies / How To guides / useful info.
 9. **BBC1 Countryfile** featured Lordship Rec very positively, plus Dave talking about the parks national funding crisis, on an 8min slot - is on Utube.
10. **Any Other Business** –
- a. Camden had held a meeting about glyphosate and Haringey is reviewing its use.
 - b. Shoreditch Park is to be built on and Alice leading a campaign to stop the development.
11. **Topic for Next Meeting:** The next General meeting will be on 3rd December and the main topic will be Management Plans.