

LONDON GREEN SPACES FRIENDS GROUPS NETWORK (LFGN)

Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 16th July 2018 at City Hall

Those Present: Dave Morris (Chair), John Hatto, (Biodiversity), Adrian Stannard (Minutes, IT & Treasurer), Kerry Hood (IT), Peter Woodward (Forum Development), Suzanne Morpurgo (Trees & Sport), Symon Knightswood (Dog & Pedestrian Officers), Samy Counder (Croydon), Furlong Tara (Woodcock Park, North Brent Parks Forum), Joy Rickman (Woodcock Park).

Apologies: Alona Sheridan, (National Park City, Biodiversity)

- 1. Introduction:** Dave welcomed everyone and outlined the agenda for the meeting.
- 2. Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting in April had not been recorded but 5 had attended. The General Meeting on 4th June had been well attended and the minutes were awaited.
- 3. Communications:** A Bulletin generated from the web site which was overdue will be sent shortly. A Bulletin about legal cases will be assembled and sent. The Mailchimp and Web stats will be circulated. A mailing list just for Forums will be set up on Mailchimp. Dave will draft a leaflet about LFGN for London wide circulation.
- 4. Campaigns:**
 - a. **Parks Alliance** - The Heritage Lottery fund is considering reinstating the Parks for People lottery fund due to pressure from a 200,000 petition.
 - b. **Our Space** – CPRE campaign. Alice Roberts is promoting Friends’ Groups who have received a grant. Tied into Love Parks Week and National Park City week.
 - c. **Go Parks** – to promote parks. Alice for CPRE organising.
- 5. London National Park City:**
 - a. Conference/Event about LPC 21st July 11am to 5pm in Conway Hall. LFGN will have a stall. John and Samy organising.
 - b. An event at Tower Bridge will also be held.
- 6. Charter for Parks:**

Launched on 21st June at Parliament Square with good response from media. LFGN will encourage member groups to sign. The select committee meets in the autumn to discuss parks. Dave had presented the Charter to the Town and Country Planning Association Conference.
- 7. Parks Action Group:**

9 government departments have met a few times with the Minister and 6 work streams have been agreed. Dave is leading the Community Empowerment group.
- 8. Woodcock Park:**

Joy Rickman asked for help in stopping the deterioration of their park, in particular from river pollution. Dave explained that LFGN does not have the resources to help individual cases but was campaigning for more money for parks generally, and the Charter was a means of getting a standard provision for parks.
- 9. Health App:**

The app is now ready for testing and Dave will ask Forums to volunteer.
- 10. Borough Survey:**

Hounslow, Bromley and Haringey have used surveys and a message will be sent out to members encouraging them to sign up.
- 11. Bulletin:**

London Forum of Amenity Societies and CPRE issue bulletins and members are encouraged to sign up for them.

12. Events:

- a. **Green Flag** inspections were underway and the results ceremony is on the 19th July in Hackney Town Hall.
- b. John attended a **Pesticide Conference** organised by the Pesticide Action Network on the 29th June about alternative weed killers and the phasing out of glyphosate. It was promoting a new technology which enables an electrode to be inserted in the ground and another to generate heat to kill the weeds.
- c. **Haringey Walks** – A Walk in the Park booklet has been published by the Haringey Forum with funds from Haringey's Health Budget. A scrutiny of all the parks in Haringey has been completed and recommended life long protection but this is too expensive, so the Forum is looking for an alternative.
- d. **Harrow on the Hill** – Suzanne reported that the Open Spaces Society had won the right to protect the views from the Hill. Northwick Park Hospital had wanted to sell land but the OSS campaigned against it.

13. London Councils – Their scrutiny committee were examining parks and Tony Leach had addressed the committee.

14. Topic for Next Meeting: The next General meeting will be on 3rd September and the main topic will be Recycling in Parks and waste management including drinking fountains.