

LFGN general meeting – 13 February 2023

Attending: Laura Collins (chairing), Imogen Clark (Make Space for Girls), John Poole, Larry Herbert, Richard Desmond, Roger Chapman, Adrian Stannard, Vanessa Potter (ParkBathe), Tony Leach (Parks for London), Jennie Kettlewell, David March, Alan Pottinger, Helen Monger (London Parks and Gardens Trust), Alona Sheridan, Sandy Headey, Pat Gross, Roger Jones, Alan Cooper, Rowena Vaughn, Anna Burke, Michelle Lindson, Art Gelling, Miriam Ashwell, Sara Conway, Kim Lumley, Chris Norris, Peter Woodward, Daija Angeli, Simon Walton, Anna Rebman, Annabelle May.

Apologies: Dave Morris LFGN chair

Minutes

1. Minutes of the previous meeting 12 September 2022 were approved.
2. Presentation from Imogen from **Make Space for Girls**: please check out the video and slide deck for more information <http://www.lfgn.org.uk/make-space-for-girls/>
3. LFGN updates: Laura explained that the **dogs, climate resilience and biodiversity groups** were all hard at work producing materials and information that would be useful for friends groups. The biodiversity working group recently hosted the presentation from Butterfly Conservation <http://www.lfgn.org.uk/butterfly-conservation-talk/> and is looking to host similar events going forward. Laura asked if the group would be interested in forming a **working group on improving inclusion** in friends groups, and this was agreed. Roger Chapman also updated on the planning working group, who are hoping to host some **presentations on biodiversity net gain**.
4. Updates from London organisations:
 - a. **ParkBathe** - Vanessa explained that ParkBathe is about **mindful and slow walks** through green spaces to improve mental health and wellbeing. They are looking for more friends groups to get involved, so please contact Vanessa at parkbathe@gmail.com
 - b. **London Parks and Gardens Trust** – Helen said they are currently undertaking a letter **campaign to MPs regarding Victoria Tower Gardens**, and also a reminder that **Open Gardens** is coming up <https://londongardenstrust.org/whatson/log2023/>
 - c. **Urban Tree Festival** – Neil asked **friends groups to please sign up to host an event** during Urban Tree Festival 13-21 May. Types of events could include walks, talks, arts & crafts, etc – and the UTF team can help publicise your events. <https://urbantreefestival.org/>
 - d. **London Wildlife Trust** – Alex explained that the team is really busy working in **nature reserves** in London <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/explore-our-nature-reserves>, holding events and helping with land management. They are also working on **monitoring species** of flora and fauna <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/explore-londons-wildlife>.
 - e. **Parks for London** – Tony said there is information about Parks for London projects on the website: <https://parksforlondon.org.uk/>