

FRIENDS OF ROCKLIFFE GARDENS

NOTES AND ACTIONS OF ORDINARY MEETING - 25 FEBRUARY 2017

Held at Plumstead Common Working Men's Club

Present: Alison Miller (Acting chair), Stephen O'Connor, Kay Bartlett, Penny McLean, Tessa O'Connor

Apologies received: Richard O'Connor, Paul Tretheway, Dena Tenham

Progress update

It is hoped to appoint a new group chair at the 2017 AGM. In the meantime, AM took over chairing the meeting.

The chair summarised events and milestones since the last meeting. Friends of Rockliffe Gardens continued to meet on a monthly basis for tidying, improvement and maintenance works.

Tasks completed since last meeting;

- Further relaying of paving stones through the Hills project
- Railings facing Camdale Road repainted
- New signage installed
- Water pipe established - trench dug to connect to top of waterfall
- Further research on pond restoration carried out
- 1500 spring bulbs planted
- Tree's planted

Budget

A break down of 2016 finances was shared and agreed as accurate.

Discussion

The meetings discussed a number of activities that may help enhance the Gardens in the future.

Future planting strategy - Action - to contact Greenwich Ecology Park to discuss planting strategy, pond life/uses and funding opportunities. Further advice could be sought from staff at Lullingstone Castle who have similar habitats.

ParksFest 2017

The meeting then focused on initial requirements for the main summer event.

Lessons learned from 2016;

- That while a natural amphitheatre, the pond/dell area was not properly accessible for larger vehicles to load/unload. Therefore should be used for other activities and the stage located on the terrace area.
- That taping off the rock wall was superfluous as people continued to climb on the rocks. Different mitigation required for 2017.

The main theme for 2017 would as 2016 - Mental Health, feel better outside, feel better inside.

A number of bands had already been provisionally booked. Staging has been sourced from Greenwich Council. Solar generator has been booked.

It was agreed that pitches for stalls would be charged for this year to help recover costs.

Regular event planning meetings would be established to co-ordinate planning activities.

Next meeting 27 May 2017, 2pm - Plumstead Common Working Men's Club.