

Friends of Dollar Park

Minutes of Meeting

Held on

13th February 2018 at 6.30pm

Cyrenians Offices Wellside Place Falkirk

Present – Les Pryde (Chair), LP, Morris Robb, (Vice Chair), MR, Ian Gourlay (Treasurer), IG, Pat Reid, Robert Menzies. Gordon Lumsden, Ruth Mulligan, Lynda Ross-Hall, George Main

Apologies – Jessica Paterson, Morven Mack, Ian Scott, Maureen & Alistair Smith

Minutes of meeting of 26th September 2017

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

Proposed- Gordon Lumsden Seconded - I Gourlay

Matters arising

G Main made reference to the web site.

Arnotdale House

All quotes received were on budget and a meeting with the contractors was scheduled. September was still the date for the renovations to be completed.

The parking planning consent had been approved in January. Robert Menzies, to forward copies of consent to the Friends.

Walled Garden Development Group

- Jessie Pitt has now started as the new Community Gardener. She joint works with Ruth on Thursdays and works alone in the office on Fridays and the garden on Saturdays. No issues rose.

- Bulbs and roses have now been planted
- Efforts to build up external relationships continue with some success. The Rotary Club is involved with the funding for the floral clock. Work with Trinity Church is on-going.
- SVQ work continues with two clients currently on-going. One visit each has been completed (working with others) and a further visit has been arranged (problem solving)
- **Toilet block** - Unpaid work teams will maintain the facility as opposed to undertaking the structural work. There will be a meeting to discuss this later in the week. Actions on-going.
- **Resource Hub** - Installation of running water can proceed pending further consideration. Les has drawings from the archives which may show heating and water pipe work. Les to Ruth for information
- **Paths** - work required is on-going; been delayed due to the poor weather.
- **Women's Group** – plans for the women's group and the women's unpaid work team to work at Dollar Park to continue.
- **Kitchen Installation** - Mary provided an update on the work to install new kitchen facilities in the Howff. Once up and running, the new facilities / cooking groups etc. can use any produce from the garden

Walled Garden

A calendar of events for the summer was being drawn up. Easter event planned. Wedding groups requests re photos was increasing, charging £50 per group. A planned wedding was booked for the beginning of March. It was hoped to use Arnotdale in the future for receptions, funds raised would be used to purchase materials for the garden.

Floral Clock

LP continues to have meeting with Edinburgh Parks regarding the growing of the carpet bedding plants.

An application to the Agnes Watt Trust Fund for Funding re the clock mechanism had been made but unfortunately the trustees turned down our application. Most disappointing.

The Robert Barr Trust was discussed and it was agreed an application for funding would be submitted.

A working group to be set up consisting of the Friends, Cyrenians, and Falkirk Rotary Club, to explore avenues of funding.

Reference was made to Roads perhaps objecting to the re sitting of the clock, Pat Reid to contact Roads.

Park Issues

It was suggested that the barrier at top entrance be move back Jessica Paterson to be contacted.

A meeting with Jessica had been held with regards to the removal of two medium sized Cedar tress to facility parking, the friends had no objections. Also discussed was the pruning of the Taxus baccata at the Dovecote Robert Menzies informed the meeting that he was producing signage re car parking tennis courts etc as the Council apparently had no funding available for signs.

Project Review

The Council have appointed ZZ Architects who have produced drawings to renovate the Docote and adjacent buildings. Jessica Paterson to explore avenues with regards to funding.

A discussion regarding the adjacent buildings ensued; it was felt that they served no real purpose and should be removed. However the Councils archaeologist Geoff Bailey stated they were of historical merit a meeting to be arranged to discuss further.

MR agreed to draw up plans re the re roofing of the toilet block costs probably in the region of £1000

AOCB

George Main discussed the web site and expressed concern little information was forthcoming LP to arrange material to be sent, a new server to be set up.

Pat Reid outlined the setting up a working group to look at war memorial re designing and adding the names of those lost in the two wars.
MR to represent the Friends on the Group.

Date of next meeting

17th April 2018 6.30pm Cyrenians Offices 23 Wellside Place Falkirk