

Friends of Dollar Park

Minutes of Meeting

Held on

17th April 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, Alistair Smith

Apologies – Jessica Paterson, Morven Mack, Ian Scott, Christine Reid

Minutes of meeting of 13th February 2017

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

Proposed- Robert Menzies Seconded – Morris Robb

Matters arising

MR pointed out that the sum of £1000 re the possible cost of re roofing the toilet block was not his fee.

Cedar trees had been removed from the car parking area but stumps not removed.

Arnotdale House

Work has now started on the renovations and the site is a hive of activity. Lynda Ross-Hall will be attending the project meetings and will report back to the Friends. The work is still on schedule to finish within the agreed timescale.

Walled Garden Development Group

The next meeting is on 28th May 2018

Walled Garden

After the long winter the garden was beginning to brighten up with flowering daffodils and signs of greenery.

Unfortunately the proposed Easter event had to be cancelled due to adverse weather and ground conditions.

Concern was expressed with regards to dog's not being on leads and to the grass suffering due to increased footfall.

The wall to the north was showing signs of paint and brick flaking. Further investigation to be carried out.

Floral Clock

An application to The Robert Barr Trust has been made and we await the outcome.

A Just Giving page and a My Parks page has been set up to raise funding for the clock mechanism, however to date little monies has been raised.

It was agreed that a publicity campaign needed to be implemented, LP agreed to be 'the face of the clock', a photo shoot to be organised with the Falkirk Herald in conjunction with a article outlining the history and the efforts of the various organisations to restore the clock in the park.

Rotary, to contact Howgate Centre management with a view to obtaining a vacant unit to highlight the project and fund raise.

Various other sources for funding were discussed.

LP reported that agreement with Edinburgh Council had been reached with regard to the growing of the specialised plant material. Rotary in talks with Klondyke Garden Centre with regards donating bedding plants for the wings of the clock.

Pat Reid had contacted Roads, no objection had been forthcoming to the reinstatement of the floral clock.

Park Issues

A water tap had been installed on the path leading to the tennis courts it was ascertained that its purpose was to enable a water point for the walled garden, however what puzzled the Friends was its location outside the garden and the ease to which anybody could access the tap. To be further investigated.

The car parking area was deteriorating with holes appearing and the grass turning into a muddy mess. Council to be contacted with regards as to their program of work for the car park.

A discussion took place regarding the proposed improvements to the war memorial, MR illustrated plans showing the proposed changes which would incorporate additional stone columns to accommodate 1650 names of the war dead from the two world wars. It was hope that the changes could be implemented by the spring of 2019 all would be dependent on funding.

Alistair Smith drew to the Friends attention that the plaque on the wall at the entrance to the park was difficult to see and read it was agreed to look at re locating the plaque to a better location.

Project Review

Further discussing on re roofing the old toilet block and the refurbishing of the dovecote took place.

A meeting had taken place with the Councils archaeologist Geoff Bailey to discuss the significance of the adjacent buildings to the dovecote.

Geoff outlined the historic importance of the buildings, however the Friends were still of the opinion that the buildings adjacent to the dovecote should be remove

AOCB

The Cyrenians had made a application to the Sons of the Rock Society re funding for events equipment for the walled garden. This was endorsed by the Chair LP.

Alistair Smith alluded to the fact that there was a lack of seating at the tennis courts. To be looked at.

Date of next meeting

29th May2018 6.30pm Cyrenians Offices 23 Wellside Place Falkirk