

**Minutes of “Friends of Dollar Park” Meeting
22nd June 2010
Leishman Tower Club Room**

Present: Ian Gourlay, Chris Morris (Chair), Susan Myles, Robert Menzies, Jean Armstrong, Ian Scott, Maureen Smith, Alastair Smith, Maurice Robb, Christine Christie, Linda Pacitti, Dennis Goldie, Isabel Hall.

Invited speakers: Adam Donaldson, Walking Development Officer, Braveheart

Apologies: Les Pryde, Jessica Paterson, Keith Matheson, Heidi & Tony Hemsley, Barbara McConnell

Item	Heading	Subject	Decision	Action	Timescale
1	Welcome & Introductions	CM extended introductions, welcomed everyone to the meeting including Adam Donaldson the invited speaker from Braveheart.			
2	Apologies	Noted above.			
3	Minutes of Last Meeting	Minutes of the previous meeting (230310) were accepted as an accurate record.			
	Braveheart	Adam Donaldson outlined the work of the Braveheart organization and its efforts to work with people with heart disease and type II diabetes to encourage them to increase their general fitness and use green spaces through led walks. He explained that the organization already leads walks that use Dollar Park and that they were keen to formalize a link and work in partnership with the FoDP group. He outlined that the workload for the FoDP group was minimal. Braveheart provides the liability insurance and risk assesses their walks. In addition, they			

		<p>regularly advertise their walks in the Falkirk Herald and would be keen to promote them in future in association with the FoDP.</p> <p>CM thanked AD for the information and summed up the general feeling of the group that collaboration with the Braveheart organization would be productive on many fronts, particularly in opening up the park to new user groups. The meeting unanimously voted to support collaboration between the Braveheart and FoDP groups.</p>			
4	Financial report & insurance update	<p>IG (Treasurer) outlined the current financial position of the FoDP group. He noted that the bank account balance was £685.35 derived from: £300 set up grant from Council; £60 subscriptions; £205 raffle income; £102.35 balloon donations; £40 donation from ice-cream van. Expenses to date were £22.10 for prizes and stationery.</p> <p>Insurance: IG reported that the Falkirk Environmental Trust (FET) group had agreed, in principle, to meet the £291.95 insurance premium for the FoDP public liability insurance required to hold events. IG awaiting the cheque from FET.</p> <p>It was proposed that the insurance policy should be activated from the next litter pick event on August 22nd.</p> <p>It was suggested that the membership application forms were circulated again to stimulate further memberships and donations to support the work of the group.</p>		SM to re-circulate membership application forms around the membership distribution list.	

		DG suggested we approach Ken Waddell to be an Honorary Member of the FoDP group and to try to develop a story of interest around this for the Falkirk Herald to stimulate further interest in the group and membership applications.			
5	Doocot project	<p>CM reported that he was in correspondence with John Banks from Falkirk Council and other relevant (planning) officers to discuss taking forward the FoDP group proposals for renovation of the 'Doocot'. CM has requested a meeting and awaits a response from JB.</p> <p>DG suggested that it may be possible to request assistance from local businesses to support efforts to develop plans for the Doocot e.g. in organizing a survey.</p>		<p>CM to follow-up on this action and report back on progress.</p> <p>DG to explore with local businesses assistance to support FoDP park regeneration plans.</p>	
6	Website development	SM reported that Keith Matheson indicated that a draft of the website is now prepared and that he should be able to share it with the group soon. KM also reported that the domain name 'friendsofdollarpark.org.uk' is available and requested a decision from the group on securing this address for the website. IS flagged that it may also be worth exploring the availability and cost of securing the address 'friendsofdollarpark.co.uk'.		<p>KM to report back to the group on the progress with the website.</p> <p>SM to contact KM re the domain names and estimated costs.</p>	
7	Open day success	<p>CM reported back on the success of the play park launch event. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting participants.</p> <p>The issue of 'age suitability' of the new swings was raised. CM reported that he had asked for the basket swing to be removed and replaced with more 'wrap-</p>			

		around' basket swings. AS noted that he felt that swing suitable for children beyond infancy would also be desirable.			
8	Parking problems	<p>CM reported that there has been a serious traffic incident in the park recently, involving a car being driven across the putting green and in and around the vicinity of the new play park area. Police and council officers (Maureen Campbell) became involved. As a result, the Council has committed to redirecting traffic flow in the park by installing a gate, bollards, parking signage and a new fence to prohibit a recurrence of such an event in the future and create a 'traffic free' area in the vicinity of the play area. These changes are imminent.</p> <p>CC asked whether, when the new gate was being installed, if it might be possible to put up new signs at the entrance to the park.</p>		SM to follow-up the issue of new park signs with Steve Penn at Falkirk Council.	
9	Litter pick event	Litter pick event scheduled for Sunday 22 nd August 1100-1300. Council litter strategy team to provide the same support as at the last event with the exception of insurance cover. Insurance coverage will be provided under the new FoDP policy.		SM & JP to promote the next litter pick event through posters and the Falkirk Herald etc. as before.	
10	AOCB	<p>Arnotdale report: CM reported that he had requested a copy of the most recent report looking into the future use of Arnotdale House and that he would share this with the group when available.</p> <p>Miscellaneous actions to follow-up with Steve Penn at Falkirk Council, including: pricing of portaloos beyond summer provision; tarmac repairs to the path at the</p>		<p>CM to circulate/share the new Arnotdale report when available.</p> <p>SM to write to Steve</p>	

		<p>western entrance to the park; toilets provision; new signage at the entrance to the park.</p> <p>Logo: JA reported that Anne Marie Kelly, a graphic designer, has kindly volunteered to assist with professional production of the FoDP logo.</p> <p>SM proposed we purchase a banner, incorporating the new logo that we could use at future events to advertise the group.</p> <p>Tree donation: SM queried progress on this donation from the Inner Wheel group. Agreed to ask LP to follow-up on this as he had been liaising with the group, advising them re a suitable George Forrest specimen.</p> <p>Elections: for new committee discussed. Agreed that the existing term should continue for one full financial year, until April 2011. Members agreed that this was acceptable.</p> <p>West Bank Tennis Cup: AS asked if it might be possible to investigate re-starting this tournament.</p> <p>Healthy Living event in Town Hall on 30th June (1830 onwards): JA reported that the Braveheart organization had kindly agreed to provide space for the FoDP group to have a stand at this event. JA sought volunteers to</p>		<p>Penn to follow-up outstanding queries and actions.</p> <p>SM to source cost estimates for a portable FoDP banner (from APB signs and other suppliers)</p> <p>LP to update on progress re the tree donation from the Inner Circle.</p> <p>CM undertook to explore the tennis event.</p> <p>DG & IS to assist JA in the forthcoming event on 30th June. SM to forward JA</p>	
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		<p>‘man the stand’. IS & DG indicated they could assist. JA also requested electronic copies of photos from recent FoDP events and membership application forms.</p> <p>Sub-group on funding: SM asked people to consider volunteering to form a sub-group to explore funding opportunities/grant to develop the park. IH and IS indicated potential interest to be involved. Members to consider and report their interest at the next meeting.</p> <p>Future events: SM requested that all member come to the next meeting with one future ‘event idea’ for consideration and prioritisation at the next meeting.</p> <p>Toilets: office bearers to set up a meeting with local councilors to request a site visit and explore potential options to have toilets reinstated in the park.</p>		<p>electronic photos and member application forms.</p> <p>All members to consider involvement in a funding/grants sub group and note their interest at the next meeting.</p> <p>All members to come to the next meeting with one future ‘event idea’</p> <p>Office bearers to request a meeting with local councillors.</p>	
11	DONM	Tuesday 28 th September 2010, 1900-2030 (venue TBC)		IC to confirm venue.	