

Friends of Kings Park Committee Meeting, 4th March 2024

Present: Committee members David Leslie (Chair), Wendy Garcia, Hector Currie. **Apologies**, Neil Fairweather, Gordon Campbell, Marguerite Nugent, Neil Ross. **Guest** Andrew Hipkin

1. Welcome. David welcomed Andrew. As less than half the committee was present, **the meeting was not quorate**. No decisions could be made but a note would be recorded of actions that could be continued. Hector agreed to take the note.

Moira Fairweather had tendered her resignation from the committee for personal reasons. On behalf of the whole committee, David expressed our thanks for the contribution, Moira has made to the work of the Friends of Kings Park, initially as a volunteer and subsequently as a committee member.

NOTE

2. Minute of meeting of 27 November 2023 and Note of 29 January 2024 and matters arising

The minute of 27 Nov. 2023 could not be approved. Follow-up actions from Note of 29 Jan. 2024:

item 3(4): FKP's effort is ongoing to engage with Stirling Council's Transport Development team on public safety concerns at the park main entrance and roundabouts. **Action: David/Neil R.**

item 6(5): A note had been sent to Stirling Council that a request for a *memorial* seat in the Peace of Mind Garden was not considered appropriate, given the purpose of Garden.

Item 7(4): A meeting was still awaited with Stirling Council to progress the Lord Lieutenant's proposal for planting a commemorative tree in the park for the King's coronation. **Action: David.**

3. Financial update and Companies House Annual Report

Gordon and Neil F. were thanked for the combined presentation of FKP's income and expenditure from 30th June 2023 to January 2024 and of the balance on 8 January 2024. It was noted that the planned expenditure on a new sign for the orchard and a tool-box for the Peace of Mind Garden was covered by grants. It was noted that Gordon had completed the documentation for Companies House on the change of directors and the annual report and accounts for the year to end June 2023.

4. Peace of Mind Garden/Butterfly border

(1) New Pergola. Brian was thanked for obtaining estimated costs **Action: Neil F., Brian Sword, Andrew Hipkin** to present to the next committee meeting, the final proposed design and overall costs. Stirling Council to be informed and its agreement sought.

(2) Plant costs. Options discussed to obtain free plants, shrubs, bulbs, etc.: advertising for donations, creating a collection point for dropping off donations, contacting Braehead Community Garden **Action: David Leslie.** **Action: Wendy** to contact Riverside Community Orchard Group.

5. Update on other projects for 2024

(1) Community Orchard: Winter pruning completed. Weeds round the trunks need cleared. **Action: To be arranged by the Thursday volunteers.** Discussion needed with Stirling Council about this year's grass-cutting regime. **Action: David.**

(2) Rectangle of soil behind bench. Requires weeding before seed-planting. Wildflower seeds need purchased. **Action: To be arranged by the Thursday volunteers.**

(3) Proposed Childrens Garden. No progress.

(4) Training possibilities. Consideration to be given to organising workshop(s) to provide training and information that could also attract new volunteers. Possible topics: local soil conditions and

plants. **Action: Andrew** to propose how a workshop on soil conditions could be developed. Publicity and venue need identified. **Action: David and Wendy** to consider including item in next newsletter.

(5) Volunteer help. Ways of attracting new volunteers need identified for the Peace of Mind Garden, Butterfly Border, cleaning mosaics, cleaning park notice boards and possibly planting the 3-tier planter and the four fountain quadrants due to Stirling Council's budget cuts. **Action: committee**

6. Health and Safety for volunteers.

Neil F. thanked for his work on a draft procedure. **Action: David** to reduce to a single page document and present for formal review at the next committee meeting.

7. Communications and events

(1) Newsletter. A Spring newsletter is required. Contributions of articles, issues and photos requested. **Action: committee and membership.** **Action: David** to draft of newsletter. **Action: Wendy:** publication and publicity.

(2) Short newsletter. **Action: David:** to consider producing a short, (possibly) one-page newsletter with forthcoming events and current issues, between publication dates of the extended, 'coloured' newsletters. Distribute to members and cafe. Pin to park notice boards. **Action: Wendy:** to explore regular news item in the 'IN YOUR AREA' section of the Stirling Observer.

(3) Stirling 900 Celebrations

(a) A walk(s) round the public park explaining its history as told through the images on the 9 mosaics **Action: Wendy, David, Lidia:** to discuss content, date, materials, publicity and liaise with the 900 Celebrations organisers.

(b) Pavilion cafe. Possible event about the 100 years (1924) since the pavilion building was formally opened in Kings Park. **Action: Wendy** to discuss with Craig Wilkie. **Action: David** to contact Kris Henderson (Lawn Tennis Association Investment Manager). Note. Dorothy is a source of information.

(4) FKP WhatsApp. The purpose of our app is to communicate about the Peace of Mind Garden, gardening in general, cafe meetings and chat. **Action: David** to clarify its purpose and consider if another FKP *WhatsApp* type of group is necessary and report to next committee meeting. **Action: Hector** to extend the opportunity to join the 'gardening' app to the remaining FKP members.

Items 8 and 9 carried over.

10. AOB and date of next meeting

Date to be brought forward from 29 April after discussion on availability with absent committee members.