

FRIENDS OF WOODTHORPE GRANGE PARK

Minutes of meeting held at the Sherwood Community Centre on Wednesday 30th January 2019

Present:

Alex Staniforth – Chair	Janet Grimley	Janice Farr
Mavis Broomhall	Paul Swift	Matt Wilson
David Selman	Pauline Coulson (Trevose Gdns Nbhd Watch)	
Martin Harris – NCC Parks Technical Officer		

Welcome

The Chair, Alex Staniforth welcomed everyone to the meeting at The Grange.

Apologies

David Monkton, Peter Loewenstein, Anne Spalton, Marian Staniforth, Ann Bentley, Laura Archer, John Hackett (Trevose Gdns Nbhd Watch)

Minutes of the previous meeting held 28th November 2018

The minutes were taken as a true record of that meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

None

Woodthorpe Grange Park Updates

- Martin has had a meeting with Tony Brown, who was the recently appointed to oversee the management of WGP in particular the future set-up as regards volunteers working on/in the park. He sees no problem with this providing we inform him which areas we wish to work in and the type of tasks being undertaken. Martin will then liaise with Tony. Note: hedge clipping will be carried out by NCC staff.
- A tool cabinet will be made available to the Friends. This will be located in the nursery area. Access will be via a combination lock.
- Christmas Event – NCC brought in 500 Christmas trees then had to bring in a further 70. The event was well supported and will be repeated again in 2019.
- A request for a further magnolia – current is recovering from the summer drought.
- Martin is looking into alternative car park arrangements that can be put in place to minimise motorists being locked in.
- Matt raised the subject of dogs at the café and asked the question: Should they be on leads?

The Way Forward for the Friends

- An open discussion took place about how the Friends should operate in the future bearing in mind they have advanced considerably in the past year. Notable items discussed included:
- A membership fee (payable yearly?): £5.00 per single member; £10.00 per family. This would be one of the items at the Friends AGM in March.
- Along with various discounts for Friends members at the café, the Plant Shop and the Pitch and Putt.

Upcoming Events

It was proposed to have a further litter pick in the early spring. Possible date could be 23rd March –this to be confirmed on the Friends website and Facebook page.

Volunteering Updates

To put volunteering on a firm footing, particularly with regards to carrying out work in the formal garden area, and latterly the Tropical House it was decided that participants enter details of their work in a register.

This would not only be a useful record for the Friends but for the park management also. The register would be kept at the Plant Shop. The Friends' Chair will set this up.

Any other business (AOB)

- Martin said that with regards to the increasing use of drones these will not be allowed on Nottingham City Council land and that included all the parks within the city. The Friends were advised to report any incident to the Community police officers by contacting 101.
- The City Neighbourhood Services now includes Parks and Open Spaces. Edie Curry has been appointed to take charge of all public related issues e.g. litter clearing up particularly in the city centre,
- Woodthorpe Grange Centenary 2022: Currently there are no plans from the city council to provide funding for this event. It seems the Friends will have to play a large role in promoting this event.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of The Friends, which will be our AGM will take place on Wednesday 27th March 2019 at the **Sherwood Community Centre** commencing at 6.30pm.

E&OE