

FRIENDS OF WOODTHORPE GRANGE PARK

Minutes of meeting held at the Woodthorpe Grange on Wednesday 28th November 2018

Present:

Alex Staniforth – Chair	Janet Grimley	Janice Farr
Mavis Broomhall	Marian Staniforth	Matt Wilson
John Henderson	Maxine Henderson	John Hackett
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, David Selman, Ann Bentley, Ann Baurke.

Minutes of the previous meeting held 26th September 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

- The lighting in the car park is being updated to LED, which is better, safer, more efficient and cost effective.
- It was announced that a sum of £1500.00 has come in from a housing developer. Further funding could be forthcoming in May. These monies to be spent on the park.
- Footpath from the flats complex rising to the main path on the park has been resurfaced.
- Staff changes: Tony Brown (manager) is to be based at Woodthorpe Grange Park (?) preparing the site for continuation of Green Flag status. Also, may become involved with the Friends on aspects of gardening in the future,
- The Christmas Event is now in full swing; the first weekend has just been completed. The Friends have an exhibition stand in the main glasshouse – see Volunteering Updates.
- Martin reported that one or two trees in the park suffered from the long hot summer and had to be felled.
- Trees around the park: a Rowan is to be replaced, the Magnolia is being looked at, a replacement Cherry may be planted in the Formal Garden if it is found that no disease is present

Volunteering Updates

- Marian and Alex Staniforth have completed cutting/trimming the low height Box hedges in the parterres. There were a total of 20 that needed to be attended to.
- The Friends, as stated above have an exhibition stand in the Glasshouse promoting the Friends obviously. This can be unmanned but Friends are welcome to come and man it for an hour or so. A Register of Interest was made available whereby interested persons can input their details on a dedicated slip and (for security) put it in a sort of ballot box. Email addresses would be put on the Friends mailing list. We have had 500 A5 size coloured leaflets printed in time for the event and for future use.
- Matt will inform the Friends of our financial status at the AGM.
- Future meetings may be held in the new Community Centre at the refurbished flats complex.
- The setting up of a volunteer gardening group was received favourably. Full details of its structure will be given prior to its commencement. Currently there is only one permanent gardener (employed by the council) on site, and one on a fortnightly basis. Any volunteer gardening club needs to liaise

with and be involved with the permanent gardening staff at the park to collaborate on any projects and general gardening work.

- Regular litter picks will be organised in the new year.
- Possible sponsorship of bins/benches from local businesses?

Upcoming Events

- There may be a late-spring event next year in the Plant Shop area.
- There is the possibility of a social event for 'members' of the Friends Group next year.

Funding for the Friends

We have now received a sum of £500.00 from the Sherwood Ward Councillors Community Fund.

Any other business (AOB)

A date at the end of March 2019 has been suggested for the Friend's AGM.

Possible yearly membership scheme was suggested to raise money for incidental expenses coupled with discount at the Plant Shop, the Café and the Pitch and Putt?

Next Meeting

The next meeting of The Friends will take place on Wednesday 30th January 2019 at the Grange commencing at 6.30pm.

E&OE