

FRIENDS OF WOODTHORPE GRANGE PARK

Minutes of meeting held at the Meeting Room, Winwood Court, Chestnut Walk, Nottingham NG5 4DW on Wednesday 27th November 2019

Present:

Alex Staniforth – Chair	Marian Staniforth	Janice Farr	John Hackett
Paul Swift – Vice-Chair	Laura Archer	Esme Thomson	David Thomson
Mavis Broomhall,	Anne Bentley	Ann Spalton	David Monkton
Matt Wilson – Treasurer			
Leonie Brown – Greenspace Development Officer		Ian Broomhall (Visitor)	
Rod and Jenny Fillingham – Trustees, Friends of Gedling Country Park (Visitors)			

Welcome

The Chair, Alex Staniforth welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

Janet Grimley, Peter Loewenstein

Minutes of the previous meeting held 25th September 2019

Minutes taken as a true record of that meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

None raised

Woodthorpe Grange Park Updates

- Funding bid for Playground and Gym Trail has been made. The result in will be announced in December.
- Work has commenced around the café area but is currently paused due to the bad weather.
- Pocket Park Funding: a bid for £25k for the Sunken Bed area in the Formal Gardens. This is a Community led project. It is hoped the Friends border area (the West Wall) will be included in this. If success it could coincide with the Centenary celebrations in 2022. The bid must be in by 31st January 2020. Leonie will submit the bid on behalf of the Friends. Matt Wilson is to produce a bullet point résumé to support the bid.

Volunteering Updates

Gardening Sessions: the next one will resume in the spring. Suggestions were made for some gardening work to be undertaken by ex-offenders and people with mental health issues.

Upcoming Events

- On Friday 29th November 10 fruit trees are to be planted near the orchard (above the allotments).
- On Tree Charter Day Saturday 30th November three mature oaks from Sherwood Forest will be planted on the park to formally launch the project. Martin Willis from the Nottingham Open Spaces Forum will head this up and a call for volunteers – and sponsorship – has gone out. There will be media coverage on the day.
- There will be another Festive Event at the Plant Shop over three weekends commencing Saturday 30th November (last year there were four). The Friends will be represented there by having an exhibition stand.

Any other business (AOB)

- Membership matters: Informal discussions with trustees of the Friends of Gedling Country Park have been arranged. Two representatives have been invited to attend our social gathering this evening for this purpose.

- On Saturday 13th June 2020 Paul Swift will lead a 'Walk and Talk in the Park' for the Lambley Historical Group.
- The bi-monthly editions of the Woodthorpe Gazette (WG) seeks input from the Friends membership; also, contributions of poetry. Hard copies of the WG can be made available but will have to be paid for.
- Membership structure for the Friends: It will be recalled in the minutes for the September meeting that for this to happen it will necessitate recruiting a Membership Secretary, or better still, two persons sharing the post. It was suggested that a mailshot is put on the Friends website and social media advertising the position(s). We need to move forward on this.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of The Friends will take place on Wednesday 29th January 2020 at **the Meeting Room, Winwood Court, Chestnut Walk, Nottingham NG5 4DW** commencing at 6.30pm.

E&OE