

Friends of Starbank Park

Minute of Committee Meeting

Tuesday 28 March 2017

Present: Graham Buckley, Jenny Dixon, Anna Dobie, Stan Dunlop, Rhona Else, Vikki Floyd, Janet McArthur, Christine Shepherd

1. Minutes of meeting on 20.2.17

Minutes accepted as an accurate record.

2. Easter Egg Hunt

- Permission from Council had been received
- **Publicity** – committee members took posters to distribute locally
- **Eggs** – Sainsbury's and Scott Coppola Electrical Distributors Ltd had donated chocolate eggs. Sainsbury's had asked for photos to be taken of the Easter egg hunt to display on their community notice board. Total of donated eggs: 150. **Janet** would buy more eggs to bring total to 300.
- **Activities** – area for younger children; best bonnet competitions 3-5, 6-8; races; craft stall; plant stall (**Graham** to get more compost); face painting; refreshments (with Easter themed home baking); decorate park with bunting and balloons (make sure there are balloon pumps!); potted primulas for sale; **Janet** – to get stall holders; **Christine** to organise baking; **Anna and Rhona** to look after teas/coffees (**Vikki** to check supplies of tea/coffee/sugar and **Janet** to purchase as necessary); **Jenny** to act as runner to make sure stall holders get refreshments
- **Price:** £3 per child; donation boxes at face painting and refreshments
- **Committee members** to come along at 9.15am on 14th April to set up

3. Plans for Viewpoint

Alastair had circulated his suggestions for creating a viewpoint. The Committee was grateful to Alastair for the work he was doing on this project. Comments were that it would be good to have at least one viewpoint on the higher level and that the number of boards should be three rather than five. **Christine** to give this feedback to Alastair.

4. Tesco bags of help funding

Graham had applied for funding for a tool shed. It was thought that the male toilet could be used as a tool shed, and the funding, if received, could be used for a new door. **Graham** to cost price of new doors for both male and female toilets.

5. It's your neighbourhood 2017

Theme: birds, bees and trees. Janet reported that she had received boxes of seed bombs from KaBloom.

6. Treasurer's report

Graham reported that there was £1700 in FOS account. Circular to be sent round members reminding about subs and giving electronic details for payment – **Graham and Christine.**

7. Power of Food Festival/Jo Cox commemoration

Janet had registered for this. Ideas: raised beds, herbs, sensory garden. It would be linked to Open Park day on 18th June, 2-5pm, which would be billed as 'Your Community Garden'. Local politicians and Allan Jackson to be invited (**Janet**). Plant sales, teas/coffees/home baking to be provided (**Anna and Christine**). Brass band would be appearing. **Rhona** to investigate possibility of wind band from Trinity Academy. People to be invited to bring their picnics (Father's day afternoon tea).

8. Update on gardening and future plans

- **Herbaceous border:** Graham reported that he has plants ready for planting out. Jen was also providing some plants. The plan was to replant as far as the first tree – ground to be prepared end of April, with planting out at the beginning of May. Plan to be circulated the week before planting to ensure volunteers were happy with positioning of the plants (**Graham**). Board to be constructed giving information about what is happening in the border, and plants to be named (**Graham**).

9. AOB

- **Police box (Tardis) for library** – had been constructed, and approval had been obtained from Council for it to be positioned on the path half way up the herbaceous border. Possibilities for a local author to open it: Alexander McCall Smith, Ian Rankin, JK Rowling – **Janet** to pursue.
- **Toilets** – Alastair had e-mailed the Committee outlining some issues which would need to be addressed before the toilets could be opened. These were discussed and answers/solutions agreed. **Christine** to communicate the outcome of the Committee discussions to Alastair. **Christine** also to draft request to Council for toilets to be opened; draft to be sent to Janet and Graham for approval before sending to Council.
Thanks to Vikki for all her work on the toilets.

- **Volunteers** – Jenny and Stan had been in communication with Volunteer Edinburgh and Corporate Network. Jenny reported that FOS was on Volunteer bulletin and social media page; however FOS would need to register. The Committee agreed to **Jenny registering FOS**. Corporate Network provided volunteers from companies – usually a large number at a time; it was thought the FOS might have difficulty in finding jobs for such a large number. Graham reported that TCV were looking for a contribution towards their expenses, and the Committee agreed that **Graham should make a donation of £100 to TCV**. It would be important that specific jobs were allocated to TCV when they visited. TCV volunteers were supervised, but use of unsupervised volunteers with mental health problems would need to be monitored. The Committee was aware for the need for PVG checks when working with people who came into the category of vulnerable adults.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6 June 2017, 7.30pm, Old Chain Pier