

Friends of Starbank Park

Minute of Committee Meeting

Monday 13th November 2017

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

Anna Dobie had indicated that, due to work commitments, she needed to resign from the committee. **Janet** would send a token of thanks for her service on the committee. It was suggested that Barbara be asked to join the committee (**Janet**).

1. Minutes of meeting on 10.10.17

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record with the following amendment: Item 2: the amount received from Tesco for the tool store was £1220 not £1250.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Janet produced a card for Anna which everyone signed. Vikki had already asked Barbara to join the Committee and **Janet** would confirm and formalise the invitation.

Matters arising:

- Graham had been in touch about the viewpoint. As a starting point a signpost such as previously seen by Alastair in East Lothian was going to be commissioned for the Nature Trail (**Graham**).
- It was suggested that the acclaim from It's your neighbourhood 2017 should be laminated and put in the bothy (**Janet**).
- Sue Lawrence had agreed to open the Tardis on Friday 30th March 2018.
- James had done basic roof repairs in the toilets and they were able to be used at the Hallowe'en Party. James would come back to complete the repairs. **Vikki** would contact Gary to do preparation and painting in the toilets and bothy. The following funds would help to pay for this work: £500 from Skipton Building Society, £200 from Scottish Water, £45 from Sue's Pilates, with the possibility of further funds from other sources.

Item 4: Update on gardening

Roses had been put in, supplied by Council.

Item 5: Arrangements for Hallowe'en Party

Hallowe'en Party had been a great success. Points to note for future events:

- Secure the different entrances to the top park; some people had been observed avoiding the donations table
- No table selling cheap 'tat'
- Definite policy needed on pricing/donations to be circulated to all stall holders

Item 6: promotion of volunteer drive to be progressed

3. Celebrating success

Starbank Park has been nominated for a Fields in Trust award (for groups who work to make their green space an amazing part of their community, being inclusive, creative

and effective in their support). The awards ceremony is in London on 29th November and Stan and Janet will attend. **Graham** to contact Ritchie about publicity; Trinity Spotlight, Evening News and Trinity Community Council were all suggested. It was decided we should have a party to celebrate this success (even if we don't finally win); this would be combined with the AGM and held in the Bothy on **12th January 2018**.

4. Treasurer's report

Graham reported that the November balance was £3,800 (included money from Tesco, Asda and Hallowe'en Party). Painting in toilets and Bothy still to be paid for (estimated at about £1000)

5. Grant applications

Members to be reminded to vote for Starbank on Aviva by mid-November (**Christine**). No further grant applications needed at present. Suggestions to be invited at AGM for future projects (e.g. raised beds); once such projects had been identified, grant applications could be made.

6. Arrangements for wreath making

Sessions were now full (Saturday 9th -16 am, 16 pm, 3 coming at 11.30; 5 on Friday 8th evening). **Christine** would provide hot chocolate and mulled wine on both sessions: 11.30-12 and 2.30-3. Foliage to be sources from members, and enough decorations to be kept back for afternoon session.

Janet to liaise with Laverock House over decoration session with residents.

7. Toilets

See above under matters arising. Alastair to be asked to put together a picture display – before and after – with a narrative (**Graham/Janet**). Noted that promised funding from council towards roof repair had not yet been received.

8. AOB

a) Andrew Morton memorial – noted that Council was reluctant to allow memorials in their parks. Some other commemoration options were discussed, e.g. naming a boat, a wooden tree with commemorative leaves which could be kept in the bothy and brought out on appropriate occasions. **Janet** to liaise with Maddie Morton.

b) Wednesday gardening sessions were no longer convenient for Rhona; she and Susie Standley would come on Tuesday mornings instead, starting in January, and would liaise with Stan for access to the garden tools.

c) Janet and Christine to attend annual Edinburgh Friends of Parks and Cemeteries Meeting on 28th November in the City Chambers.

9. Date of next meeting: tba