



Friends of Rising Sun Country Park Meeting: Friday 11th March 2022

Minutes:

Present: Eric Styan (Treasurer), Keith Page (Secretary), Claire Partleton (Chair), Janet Weatherburn, Val Watson, Dave Gordon (NTC), Chris Tallack (NTC), Ian Hogg (McDonalds), Rev'd Rae (Rising Sun Neighbours), Michelle & Sharon (ASDA)

Apologies: Keith Taylor, Vivien Fenn-Webber

Minutes 14th January 2022 - Matters Arising

Collaboration Opportunities

Ian Hogg Present. Rev'd Rae present. Sharon & Michelle present. ASDA wishing to help out re litter-picking, etc. On subject of litter, it was raised who will be responsible for land east of the nearly-completed East Benton Rise development as there is a lot of litter stuck in the brambles and burn which is only accessible from the development - Kp to contact Persimmon.

Great British Spring Clean

Advertising in place for a big litter-pick for Saturday 26th March, just after the Parkrun. ASDA will find this date difficult as it is Mothers' Day weekend so the store will be particularly busy but they will help out with other litter-picks. IH said local Brownies would also be organising a separate litter-pick.

S.106 Monies & Canopy

Kp updated the meeting re s.106 monies from housing development at Station Road North. Kp in contact with Neil Hodgson (Overall Parks Manager) and Jackie Hunter (Biodiversity Officer for NTC) and Cathy Davison (environmental Architect) to discuss s.106 spending. NH has said he should hear from Finance this week re release of monies to the parks and then plans can be developed.

Treasurer's Report

Duck Food Donation Box - approximately £20. Currently we have £24.48 in cash and £2640.04 in the bank. VW asked if we could spend some money on flowering cherry trees and had found an established tree for £250 but it wasn't hardy. CT advised any trees planted out on the wider park need to be native species and asked where on the park. VW to do further research into types/costs and location(s) for planting.

Calendars

Further three sold - monies handed over to ES at this meeting. Work has started on next year's calendar.

ASDA entrance.

Expected to happen later this month.

Northern Power Grid/Flight Diverters

CP to follow-up with Northern power Grid again as a further swan has died as a result of hitting the power lines. CP also to put a message on FB page asking people to report any further incidents going forward.

Meadow

DG advised he has met with the Wildlife Trust and they are looking at various sites within the park, as well as 10 sites across the wider Borough. Unfortunately the amount of funding available is relatively small but they would look to planting bulbs, wild flowers and trees.

Volunteering

DG advised that there was a good group of volunteers at Wallsend park but no Friends' Group, whereas at the RSCP it was the polar-opposite. Thus at RSCP volunteering was somewhat ad hoc. CP concerned re Public Liability so volunteering at the RSCP needs to be formalised and co-ordinated.

Facebook Page

CP advised there are no new issues and all seems to be ticking along fine.

AOB

Tree-Thinning

Kp advised that he now has details of the contact within NTC's Arboricultural Team so will be contacting to get an update and also express concerns about some of the storm-damaged woodland

Bedding Plants

DG advised the order is in for Summer Bedding. Michelle advised that ASDA do have plants which can't be sold but which can be revived - Michelle to ask if we can have them.

10mph signs

Kp advised one of the signs on the entrance road is facing the wrong way (historical from when the entrance road was two-way). Kp to see if it can be turned round.

Child Safety Near Car Park

ES advised that he had noticed children were often wandering into the road near the car park and asked if it is possible to have some signage advising motorists children were about. DG will ask relevant department.

Date of Next Meeting:

Friday 8th April at 12 mid-day at the RSCP Centre.