

## FoPP committee meeting 7.30pm 20 February, Park View

### Present:

**Committee members:** Carol Cole, Siriol Hugh-Jones, Rose Jones, Dimitri Mehandziski, Clive Shepherd, Garry Meyer,

**Visitors:** Paul Kemp (Pride CEO), Jane Babb (Pride)

**Apologies:** Joe McNulty, Keith Upton

### 1) Pride update and discussions.

Members of the committee introduced themselves to Paul Kemp

Paul explained that he and Jane had met Carol after the last Pride. They have an agenda to engage with Friends and residents. Over the last 5 years they have raised £85k as a social impact fund for the city. Last year, £10k went to Preston Manor. City Parks got another £10k. FoPP has applied for grants in the last few years and been successful.

Pride is aware of the issues that arose last year. They have come up with ways to address those of unauthorised access to Greenacres, Grange Close and Nestor Court.

**Access to the park:** the southern end of the park will not be included this year so won't be fenced off. They are looking at different schedule for closure. Will take account of access requirements for commuters and dogwalkers.

Paul confirmed the format will be the same as last year, though Lime Tree Walk will be managed in the lead-up so there will be greater access than last year. Paul confirmed that walkway around it last year was not satisfactory.

**Community stalls** will be inside the park this year. Last year, security were not letting people through, so the stalls didn't have the footfall envisaged. Signage was also a problem. Wellbeing and family areas will remain where they were.

**Catering:** Pride is in the final year of its contract with the existing food contractor so are subject to constraints on the number of independent food traders. In response to concerns about the number of burger vans, and lack of options for millennials, Jane gave an assurance that the future catering brief could be written very differently to reflect what people want to eat now.

**Plastic waste and litter:** Pride will be promoting a keep cup this year and will encourage people to bring refillable containers. They are aware of the need for better signage than last year.

Garry would like some involvement of the Tidy Up Team before/during/after Pride. Jane is working with a group wanting to do a beach clean on Pride Sunday morning. They will have a plan about sustainability. Rose suggested providing boxes in the park for cigarette ends.

Jane will talk further with Garry re TUT.

Pride will be working with seafront traders to reduce waste. They are working with CityClean re more bins on the Pride route. CityClean will be at the back of the parade so clean as they go.

Pride are also starting a campaign called "City Angels", an all-year-round campaign encouraging retailers to pick up rubbish outside their premises.

**Public information:** Newsletter about Pride should go out in early July.

**Pride investment in the park:** Paul asked the committee what we would like following Pride as a further enhancement to Preston Park. Some members suggested more scented climbers in the area behind Preston Manor – jasmine, honeysuckle etc. Garry has issues with the planting of climbers because it will create more maintenance work but Andy (who looks after the Rock Garden) has already set up a group of volunteers to work in the park who may be able to help with this.

Garry suggested a proper survey of the trees in PP. This is important to do and there haven't been the resources to do it otherwise. Garry was not sure how much it would cost but there are two people he knows who would be able to do the survey/recommend how it should be done.

Paul suggested they might be able to cover doing the survey in sections over the next few years. Jane: they could do it directly with the arb specialist (Alastair Peters) rather than going through the council.

**ACTION:** we will think about what FoPP want from Pride. We will find out what the survey will cost and price the maintenance on climbers.

## **2) Minutes of last meeting and action points.**

Joe has agreed to be vice chair.

Carol hasn't been able to talk to Stella,

Sussex Garden Trust family picnic has been cancelled – too big an area.

Clive: online group – Slack – can trace history of conversations. Main thing is sharing of messages. Accessible on phones, laptops etc. But you need to check for messages by turning notifications on. Does create a closed community where messages are easily traceable. Garry: he knows that council won't set up phones to allow him to use this app. Clive: Slack would also encourage a more active conversation. People would be more in the loop.

### **Agreed:**

- we will have a separate session next meeting to set this up and explore using it
- we will revert to 6.30 meetings.

## **3) Easter Event 21 April - Dimitri**

Clive found Sue's list of "to do" things for the Halloween event and shared it with Sue and Dimitri. They will need to adapt it for Easter. Main thing is to find volunteers for the day. Park ranger, Paul Gorringer, will be available on the day, though Garry won't be. Sue Shepherd will do quiz.

There will be rock painting themed around recycling, Great British Spring Clean (GBSC) etc. He will add the event to the GBSC website and set up a Facebook event and put us down as a co-host of the event. Paul will bring rocks, paints and a large marquee.

We don't need a sound system so there's nothing for Keith to do.

No need to book catering. Toilets will be open.

## **ACTION:**

- Advert needs to go into Preston Pages. Clive will take care of that. [Since done]
- Dimitri has filled out booking form to go to council. Carol needs to send it.
- Need to book face painters – Clive to share details with Dimitri [since done]. Suggestion that event should be 10am – 1pm but Clive will send Dimitri last year's poster [since done].
- Rose: we should appeal to members of FOPP for volunteers. We should add this to the newsletter.
- Dimitri will speak to Sainsburys re donation of Easter eggs.

**4) Carol's meeting with Alan Griffiths** – Carol has circulated notes.

**5) Volunteer Gardening in Preston Park led by Andy Jeavons** – he has already got 17 definite volunteers so does not want us to advertise for more at this stage.

Question of what happens if Andy was unable to lead this. Council offers leadership training.

**6) The Sussex Peasant** - Saturday morning Sussex food outlet. Carol has met the guy in charge and they will help with any events. Garry: they need to have a licence.

## **7) Newsletter to members**

Clive can publish it. Someone/several people need to write it.

Garry: in the past, newsletters were more of a journal. Rose will look at other email newsletters. Siriol: need a number of short news items. Clive: priority is Easter event.

[This has gone out in the meantime].

## **8) Updates from all other coordinators**

Garry – demo garden (run by Brighton & Hove Food Partnership): issue is that fencing has deteriorated. The Partnership want to replace it and slightly expand it. Probation will do installation over the next couple of months. Compost bins will be moved to against the hedge so it will be tidied up. Garry will get someone from BHFP to write something for newsletter. Picnic tables and bins: Clive can transfer the money once he knows it's about to happen. Carol: this has to happen before Pride happens.

## **9) AOB and next meeting**

Next meeting: 27 March at 6.30pm with another meeting shortly before the Easter event (tbc).

Agenda to include the purchase of a new marquee for FoPP and arrangements for the Easter event.