

## **Friends of Preston Park meeting 6pm on 19th September 2018**

**Present:** Sue Shepherd  
Clive Shepherd  
Carol Cole  
Garry Meyer  
Rose Jones

**Apologies:** Sue Shanks  
Dimitri Mehandziski  
Joe McNulty

### **1. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising**

Approved

### **2. Plans for Halloween Lantern Walk - 27 October**

Permission for the go ahead of the lantern walk from the council has been given.

Permission from the Fitness Hub for access to electricity given.

A magician has been hired for the entertainment/intro.

The walk will go ahead unless pouring with rain.

Garry to source 12 pedestrian barriers to create an area for the competition area. Those people who want to enter the competitions need to collect a numbered coloured sticker. (Carol buying stickers) Clive to interview each entrant, camera to be set up on a tripod to capture outfits. Madam Mayor to judge. (Best Outfit - Child, Best Outfit - Adult, Best Lantern). All children will receive a medal.

Sue to contract Tracy Phips to request that the toilets at Rotunda Cafe can be left open for the evening.

Clive to confirm sponsorship with Fox and Sons.

Joe to confirm food and drink for the evening - hot dogs. Crepiere contacted Sue to see if he can also be there again this year.

Volunteers: Carol, Lloyd, Clive, Sue, Siriol, Keith. Sue to ask Alison Boyce and John Upton. Volunteers to be in fancy dress.

Garry (plus 1 other) to do carving of pumpkins on 26th October at Chalet Cafe between 11 - 2pm. Carol to organise for 30 pumpkins - T&G Fruits perhaps. Garry to pick up. Any left over pumpkins to be donated to local charity. Posters about the event and the pumpkin carving to be created and placed around the park.

Carol/Sue to buy Poundshop fairy lights and skeletons to put around the park on the route. Lanterns and lights to be put up last minute and one volunteer to be in charge keeping watch. Keith to organise lighting, sound, dry ice around the Fitness Hub. The Fitness Hub also adding film over the arc lights by the Hub.

Carol buying 2 orange buckets to collect donations for FoPP. Sue to design signs to stick on the buckets.

Suggestion that we organise cleaners to tidy up Fitness Hub for the morning after which FoPP will pay for.

Things to bring: Scissors, temporary yellow bins, boxes for lights etc

### **3. Bin Notices**

Red notices to be removed from bins around the park. Rose to do this on next park clean.

### **4. Plans for the Coronation Garden**

Sue met with Paul Campbell and Stella Richardson from Parks Projects team and Alan Griffiths and George Hand of Citypark.

In the short term the shelter in the garden should have a large wooden beam replaced to top the current brick pillars on either side of the shelter. The bench within the shelter to be removed. In the longer term thought will be given to how this shelter could best be used to the benefit of park users.

The vegetation behind the shelter is a mix of woodland and some older shrubs. It was thought that it would be better to make that a clearer woodland area with glimpses of the bigger park beyond. Lower shrubs to be replaced. Park staff to do this.

The aim to make the main grass part of the garden into a wild grass area with paths cut through and cut areas for people to sit and picnic. It is not known how suitable the ground will be for this. As a first step it is intended that the existing grass will be left unmown to see how it looks and behaves.

The 2 areas of brick and concrete will be removed and sown with grass.

Consideration was given to creating swathes of higher grasses within the garden.

It is hoped that more trees will be planted in the area to act as screening and to fill obvious holds in the current scheme.

Consideration was given to cleaning the climbers from the ha-ha wall to reveal the lovely brickwork and to creating more low-level planting.

**5. Pride**

representative feedback sent to Ian Taylor and Paul Kemp. Sue will find out when the Pride debrief is to be.

We will also put in bids for grants from the Pride team for the park.

**6 Park Events**

Siriol asked if FoPP should have been informed about the Friends Festival. We will hold over the discussion for the next meeting. Sue to ask Ian Taylor whether we have a voice about such events happening.

**7. AGM - Saturday 3rd November 11 am**

To be held in the church again. Sue to book. Sue to ask Michelle Furtado the South East rep for Parks Alliance to give a talk about the up-to-date strategy for parks and the issues our park faces.

We will also announce the winners of the Photographic Competition. Clive to announce the winners and arrange the prizes.

**8. Any Other Business**

It was decided that we should do another calendar. Once the on-line vote finished Clive and Rose to choose other images to complete the calendar and have printed in time for the AGM.

**9 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 18th October 6:30 pm