

FoPP Committee Meeting 10th September, 18.30, Park View

Present: Joe McNulty, Jackie Sutton, Kerry Pickett, Rose Jones

Apologies: Carol Cole, Siriol Hugh-Jones, Dimitri Mehandziski, Clive Shepherd, Andy Jeavons, Garry Meyer

1) Minutes of last meeting and action points

Keith Upton has resigned from the Committee due to work commitments. The Committee would like to note his commitment to FoPP over the past few years and to thank him for his hard work.

2) Rangers

David Larkin, Conservation Manager City Parks, has advised that there is no replacement available for Garry Meyer on the FoPP Committee while he is on secondment to City Clean.

3) Leadership Training

With regards to leadership training for volunteer gardeners, four people put their names forward and a training session was set up by City Parks in August but only Jackie Sutton and Martin MacKenzie were able to attend. Further courses will be arranged at a later date.

4) Wooden Posts

The wooden posts on Lime Tree Walk are now in a worsening state following Pride.

Action:

- Carol Cole will contact Alan Griffiths concerning their commitment to repair and replace the posts during autumn

5) Wild Flower Meadow

With regard to the Wild Flower Meadow, and following the last Committee meeting in which the meadow was discussed, the flowers suddenly blossomed and looked very good for a few weeks.

Action:

- Carol Cole will contact Alan Griffiths to discuss the option of re-seeding with flowers next year and putting in some mulch instead of seeding with grass as initially suggested

6) Pride

Pride agreed for FoPP to transfer last year's Social Impact grant from the proposed extra litter bins and picnic table to two picnic tables and benches. Both tables and benches have been embedded in concrete and are in use. As requested, they have Pride plaques marking their donation.

The FoPP Newsletter was sent out containing maps and information regarding the set up details for Pride.

Action:

- Carol Cole will meet with Paul Kemp in late September/ early October, to discuss the grants for this year

7) Preston Twins

Carol Cole has contacted Peter Bourne to discuss the possibility of a tree walk. He agreed, but as yet has not agreed a date.

- Carol Cole will follow up to agree a date for the walk and will suggest ending the walk by acknowledging the sad loss of one of the Preston Twins to old age and disease.

8) AGM

The FoPP AGM will now take place at St Peter's Church, Preston Village on 30th November at 11.00. Kate Bradbury has confirmed her attendance as speaker. The church has been booked and we can use their projector and PA system.

9) Wreath Making

The wreath making event held at St Peter's church will take place on 14th December. It is a joint event with Friends of St. Peters.

Action:

- Rose Jones, Kerry Pickett and Jackie Sutton have all agreed to volunteer, however more helpers are still needed
- The Rangers need to provide the vegetation
- We need to determine who will buy the other necessary pieces beforehand

10) Slack App

Clive Shepherd has set up the Slack app and sent out the link to Committee members. If anyone has not received it or is unable to access the link, could they please contact Clive?

11) The Halloween Lantern Walk

The Halloween Lantern Walk will take place on 26th October, starting at 18.00 until 20.00.

Action:

- Clive Shepherd to make posters to advertise the event. Kerry Pickett, Rose Jones and Joe McNulty to distribute to local businesses, etc. Clive has also advertised the event in the Preston Pages and other local magazines
- Decorations need to be collected and put up in the area in front of the Fitness Hub/bowls pavilion at 17.00. Rose Jones has volunteered, but others are also needed
- Carol Cole will buy the necessary amount of chocolate (Thornton's) and medals required
- Carol Cole will request permission to use the park from Daniel Watson at Brighton & Hove Council
- The large gazebo needs to be set up for 'Tim the Bat' magician – volunteers needed
- Joe McNulty has spoken to the Fitness Hub requesting the use of the space outside their business and use of electricity. They have agreed and he will also email a confirmation
- Joe McNulty will provide the sound system, smoke machine and lights. If anyone has any Halloween music suggestions for young children can they please send their ideas to Joe
- Carol Cole to agree the catering requirements with Dimitri Mehandziski
- Carol Cole to contact Brighton & Hove Council asking them to keep the toilets open for the event
- Carol Cole will buy up to 30 large pumpkins, but only if we have confirmation that at least two Rangers will be available to help. David Larkin has to date only confirmed availability of Will during the day of 26th October, when he is on duty. Carol has explained to David that in line with previous Halloween events, we need at least two Rangers to organise a pumpkin carving event for local children on 25th October. The carved pumpkins need to be stored overnight in the Ranger's hut and distributed around the route of the walk on 26th October from 17.00 onwards
- A person is needed to present the prizes. Jackie Sutton will ask if a council member will do it

- Rose Jones and Joe McNulty will check on decoration and the workability of the LED lights in the Chalet Café store on Friday, 25th October. They will buy replacements if needed
- A walk leader is requested. Andy Jeavons was suggested in his absence. If not, Joe McNulty said he would be able to do it
- Volunteers are needed to collect bucket donations
- Further volunteers are needed for the event. They need to bring torches. Volunteers may dress up if they wish

AOB and next meeting

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 20.00. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8th October, at 18.30.