

Friends of Marple Memorial Park

Minutes of Meeting

Navigation, Tuesday 17th December 2024



Present: Joyce Reed, Mick & Larry Thompson, Phil Wiles, Patrick O’Herlihy, Anne Frazer, Malcolm Allan

1 **Apologies:** Diane Jackson, Helen Wiles,

2 **Minutes of last Meeting:** Agreed

3 **Matters Arising:**

Rose the Frog

Men in Sheds have looked again at the frog and measured up. They have sent a quote for the base and fitting of £500. Given the other repair work was costed at £160 plus VAT, plus a transport fee of £30 each way, it seems a good investment to get the repair done by the original manufacturer.

There was some concern expressed about Rose being vulnerable to vandalism if it was put in place too soon. This will be reviewed again before it is installed.

The wooden base will need to be maintained with stain/varnish or wood preservatives etc and will need a platform of flags or similar.

Community Hub Transition Arrangements

Malcolm explained the new facilities block and the clearing of one of the raised beds at weekend. The current public toilets are due to be replaced soon and the top of Memorial Park Drive will be completed soon so we can go back to walking on the pavement not the grass.

In all this we have expressed again concerns that no explanatory signage or information about the project is being posted. Malcolm will chase again

4 **Chairs Report:**

Annual Task List

A draft has been worked on by some committee members and this will now be circulated to all for comment

Additional donation

The contractors who were working on the interior of Hollins House, TNT, and are donating £500, have increased this to £1000 and we will arrange a presentation in the new year

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5 Treasurer/Secretary Vacancy

Di has resigned and we thanked her for her hard work this year. She will finish the annual accounts due at calendar year end and will remain involved with the group. Thanks to Patrick who has volunteered to do the secretarial duties. We will ask the wider volunteer group if anyone will take on Treasurer duties, which are not too onerous on their own.

6 Tresurer's Report

There is just over £10,000 in the account.

7 Any Other Business:

A bay for the leaf mould was discussed briefly. A location will be agreed once the new trees have been planted in Spring

We found some tools left out when we had the task day at weekend. All task leaders to have a thorough check at the end of a session (this is included in Mick's Task Leaders job list).

We have a lot of blunt secateurs so we will do a review and see what needs to be purchased. On an aside, someone had heard that the council provided tools (not cash to buy tools) to some groups. Malcolm will make enquiries.

Nesting boxes will need to be put up in spring – presently four are held in our store.

Approval was given to buy some primulas for the winter beds.

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8 Date of next meeting/task days.

Next Task Day is **Saturday 28th December**: Malcolm to lead and do refreshments.

Next Meeting on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 6.00pm in the Navigation upper room.