

Friends of Marple Memorial Park

Minutes of Meeting

Navigation, Tuesday 9 July 2024



Present: Malcolm Allan, Joyce Reed, Mick & Larry Thompson, Helen & Phil Wiles, Patrick O’Herlihy, Jackie Walsh, Diane Jackson

1 **Apologies:** Micaela Wood

2 **Minutes of last Meeting:** Agreed

3 **Matters Arising:**

Goal posts

Malcolm meeting with Richard Booker, SMBC on Friday to agree the location and check the pitch isn’t affected by the new build. Put notice on Social Media to inform everyone that this is remedial action not loss of the goalposts.

Exercise equipment

No further news but Mark will continue to follow this up

Benches

No further action. Bench on towpath has temporarily been removed and is being repaired by SMBC

New Horizons trip

On hold – deferred to September.

Covid Memorial

Rosemary has now been planted and lime chippings spread under (pic put on website), thanks to volunteers who put in extra time to gather the materials and planting.

Repair to the top stone is under review, waiting for contractors.

Additional Tree Planting

No change in situation.

The Civic Society would like to install a fully accessible pathway to the woodland walk at a cost of £20k and are currently seeking funding.

Carnival

An awareness-raising presence for FOMMP, plus an opportunity to fund raise. Most agreed that the location wasn’t the best and if we take part again a better location would be with the Maker’s Market on Market St.

Treasure Hunt

A successful event, 107 clue sheets given out to families and 4kgs of chocolate coins claimed! All those taking part said they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves, some making a first time visit to Memorial Park and others finding parts of the Park they hadn’t seen before. Visit from the Deputy Mayor rounded off the day nicely. Despite being a FREE event, the donations in the collection tin raised £138.76. Thanks to Nurture Nursery for sponsoring the event and covering our costs.

Dead Tree on main path

This has been reported to SMBC

4 **Chairs Report:**

A hole has appeared near the Junior playground and been reported to Jonathan (SMBC) and has now been repaired.

ACTION

MA

MW

SMBC

MA

MA

Civic Soc

MA-DJ letter of thanks to Nurture Nursery

SMBC

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New Mills Petanque group approached Malcolm asking whether improvements at the Boules Court were being considered as there wasn't anywhere else they could play close by. The costs of replacing the wooden surround is prohibitive and after discussion it was agreed that patch repairs to the boards would be undertaken by volunteers. Malcolm to get a price.

MA

Mark had earlier today reported that the WW1 Flag in the Park was down. Malcolm and Mark are meeting tomorrow to effect a repair and install new flag.

MA / MW

The meeting then heard from Jackie Walsh who has considerable knowledge on gardening and wildlife matters. She pointed out the advised time to avoid cutting hedge and whilst birds are nesting (avoid March to August). Had some great ideas for the wildflower bed and a meadow margin to the woodland walk. (contact Pictorial Meadows, Sheffield)

It was agreed that it would help the group to have an annual programme of work, which took in the annual gardening tasks needed every year. This item has been tabled for the November agenda for further discussion.

5 Finance – Treasurers Report

The Santander Account is now up and running, Both Di and Malcolm had successfully made cash deposits using the Post Office counter system.

The Barclays account is still open but no further deposits are being made, that last one being the sponsorship from Nurture Nursery. When the ring-fenced amounts have been paid to SMBC, the plan to close the account will proceed and remaining money transferred to Santander.

Santander statement balance 4th July £341.93

Barclays statement balance 28th June £18,387.20

DJ reported that there had been no response yet from the Co-op to the request for sponsorship of volunteer refreshments, but that other avenues are being explored to cover these costs.

MA / DJ

6 Any Other Business:

There being no other business to discuss the meeting was closed.

7 Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 13th August at 6.00pm in the Navigation upper room