

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF THE TRIANGLE ALDCLIFFE ROAD, MEETING held on 8th May 2016

Present: Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Mike Swan, Jane Swan, Gillian Allen, Martin Luke, Frances Tordoff, Jim Combe, Nicola Combe, Duncan Bell, Liz Bell, & later Uschi Maden-Weinberger.

Apologies: Sheila Bliss, Geoff Easton, Clare Gould.

Minutes of last meeting: the minutes of 4th April 2016 meeting were approved, with the correction that the initial Groundwork UK / Tesco Bags of Help grant application had included the cost of construction of a path through the Triangle site.

Recent developments: a) Dave has been authorised to sign for the 'ownership' of the Triangle site for Groundwork UK due to our having a 30 year lease of the land.

b) an old sailing boat has been donated to the Triangle project to become a play feature on the site once sanding, painting and varnishing has been completed. This will take some work before the boat can be securely and safely fixed to the ground.

c) wood treatment and painting of the pergola has been completed and the north end of the far wall buttress built up with stone to level off this feature.

d) there has been further incidents of litter and drink cans being left on the Triangle which volunteers have had to clear into the Council litter bin by the entrance to the canal towpath. Also further damage to several trees thought to be by more dog scratching of bark above the chicken wire and plastic mesh previously put in place. Both of these matters require further discussion to decide what action can be taken to lessen these problems.

Groundwork UK - additional £2,000 grant for coming second in the public vote between the three projects chosen. The need to agree what items to cost and submit for this extra funding led to much discussion of priorities. Suggestions included:

Materials for completion of pointing the towpath wall.

Installation of an irrigation system to the planned raised beds, including a raised tank within the workshop building fed by rainfall and distributed by a small electric pump run from existing solar panel.

Vandal proof compost bins

A 1kw generator to run drills, sander, etc.

Self-tapping screws to fix the wooden sleepers of the raised beds securely.

Manufacture of a tarpaulin with eyelets to hang under the pergola for shade / rainfall.

Varnish and paint to apply to the donated boat play feature.

An alarm on the workshop building - live or dummy.

(N.B. re-instating iron railings in the gaps in the towpath wall still needs to be researched and costed for further funding in the future).

Triangle Spring Fair Saturday 21st May 2016, 12 to 4pm. Events discussed and allocated:

BBQ - Duncan and Liz who will add smoked salmon to their usual offer.

Tea, coffee, cold drinks and cakes etc. - Jane and Mike plus helpers.

Children's games - Peter and Lucy using Will and Uschi's games.

Musicians playing live music.

Possible plant stall - Clare.

Raffle prizes - donations needed, including Quays fish & chips voucher. Jim and Nicola to try Water Witch for meal voucher. Dave to man?

Books and DVDs for sale in workshop building. Needs persons to man.

Plus volunteers needed on Friday 20th to transport large marquee, small gazebos, tables and chairs from FA store to Triangle workshop ready for assembling on Saturday morning.

Next volunteer session: Sunday 15th May 2 - 4pm

Next monthly meeting: Monday 6th June 2016. All welcome.