



Friends of Victoria Park, Glasgow

Minutes of our Committee Meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 7th September 2022

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1. Apologies: Linda Whiteside (LW), Joyce Craig (JC) & Michael Herrigan (MH).

Present: Elizabeth Brown (EB), Robert McKay (RMCK), David Webster (DW) Gail Herrigan (GH), Ben Shepherd (BS)

2. Approval of minutes of last meeting: carried
3. Victoria Park Community Trust update (including PR request and Vision/Park plan update):

The PR request agreement is progressing to its completion.

The planters are partially planted. There is some progress on the dirt track project. RE has arranged a meeting with Hoskins Architects re the cafe. RMCK had a meeting with Peter Alexander and **Monique** McArdle of Glasgow Life, the latter is the General Manager.

Partick Curling Club wish to withdraw from VPCT, as they no longer have an active connection with Victoria Park.

GH & ESB contacted Scott Donaldson with regard to signage. He advised that he would put these up. This does not appear to have been actioned.

The Area Partnership has improved £24K for Victoria Park. Of this £21K is to fund plans for the "Still Game bench" improvement and the mural on the toilet block. The other £3K is for the play-park.

4. Park and Fossil Grove works including volunteer Saturdays/midweek afternoons, weeding, litter picking and other works:

The next volunteer day is Saturday 17/09/2022 at the Fernery.

On Wednesday 03/08/2022, JC & GH to meet Ada regarding the Glasgow University Volunteers.

We have a tool shed facility in the Depot. However, we do not have evening access.

Regarding the weed problem in the Fossil Grove pond, no effective solution was forthcoming. RMcK It may be something that we consider engaging a contractor to address. This would entail costs for the committee to consider.

Some of the ornamental flower beds are continuing to grass over. The committee has yet to formulate an action plan for this.

GH & JC are to attend a volunteer day at Glasgow University on 21/09/2022.

Actions: RMcK and DW to seek a solution, re flower beds and to seek suitable quotes for addressing the overgrowth of pond clogging flora

5. FoVP Action Plan Subgroup: no update.

6. Events: including presentation from Clyde Bat Group: they have conducted tours of up to 60 people. He knows Victoria Park well and expects to find bats there. These are usually pipistrelle of one kind or another. GH advised she believes that she has seen what she believes to be pipistrelles. They do not charge for events, but accept donations. All thought that

the walks should be open to the public and free to participants. However, FoVP would be happy to make a donation to the Clyde Bat Group.

He has bat detectors. They count for surveys and habitat location, which they send to the bat conversation trust. The Committee agreed to buy bat detectors.

He asked what we want kind of event and when FoVP would like. We will discuss and advise. After the presentation, walks and a talk at the AGM were proposed, by the Committee. We would look into acquiring a bat detector; BS to be our contact regarding Clyde Bat Group.

For Doors Open Days, the Livestreaming the Heritage Walk was presumed to be in hand, as are other aspects of this event. These will take place on both days at 2:00 pm. On the Sunday there will also be an open day at the Fossil House.

Regarding the Remembrance Sunday Event, Ben has heard from **Yevgen** Gorash, who is a Research Fellow at Strathclyde and he is happy to do a talk. BS will have a zoom chat with him next week to discuss the details.

He has not yet heard back from Maggie McTernan about the interfaith aspect that we hope to develop; but is hopeful that he will.

Actions: GH to contact Euan Aitken and purchase wreath, bio-degradable, if possible; M.H to re-contact Jimmy Huis, re Ranger led walks (as MH not present ongoing action) and BS to contact Clyde Bat Group,

7. Communications: ESB was unable to look at the web site as she has not yet been sent the password.

Action: DW to provide EB with the password.

8. Wildlife Issues: see Maintenance Issues section

9. Maintenance Issues: there is a continuance in the grassing over of the mining bees' section of the ornamental flower beds.

NB: see above for the Committee's position re the ornamental beds and the lack of proper maintenance of them.

10. Litter & Bins: DW advised that the bin in Lennox Avenue should be moved to the nature trail. It was noted that one bin for the bus stop and gate was not sufficient and not properly positioned. DW advised that one at both locations was needed.

Action: DW to contact Martin Neill

11. Finance and Membership: there have been more than 10 renewals and /or new members since the last Committee meeting. Our membership is currently approximately 100.

GH has contacted Ogilvie's about an iron bench. They have not yet responded.

Actions: GH to price iron benches (ongoing); RMCK to cost notice boards (ongoing).

12. AOCB: RMCK advised that having an Environmental Protection Plan would aid us in funding applications. JC has looked into this issue.

DW advised that the Glasgow Geology Society has put up an information display in Whiteinch Library. He suggested that FoVP do the same. EB advised that the report that is with GCC about the future of the library includes sections on the involvement of bodies such as Glasgow Geology Society and the Eco Trust.

GH advised that she has asked Cllr Chris Cunningham to look into the failure to repair the damaged crash barrier on the approach to Victoria Park Drive South, which is in a dangerous condition.

Burgh Hall Campaign & National Park City: no update.

Date of Next Meeting: 12/10/2022, 7.30 pm at BS's home, 3/1, 895 Dumbarton Road, G11 6NA.

