

**Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting  
Monday 11 February 2019  
Marple Library**

**Present:** Terry Wood, Bob Wilson, Mick Thompson, Micaela Wood,  
Cllr. Annette Finnie, Mark Whittaker.

**1.0 Apologies:** Joyce Reed, Patrick O'Herlihy, Lorraine Thompson, Cllr. Allan.

**2.0 Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed.

### **3.1 Teen Area / Skatepark Phase II / MUGA**

The tenders for the MUGA element have come in at slightly less than anticipated, which means that we are just within the overall budget but with no contingency.

Information from Canvas is still awaited to place an order / agree programme.

The slow rate of progress with Canvas Spaces continues to frustrate.

Tree work to ensure the construction access route is clear has been done.

### **3.2 Bowling Green and Buildings**

**Missing Tool Store Keys:** Measurement have been taken in order to source the correct sized replacement lock. Prices look like £25 - £30 plus the cost of extra keys. It was agreed to proceed and then send receipts to the council.

**Cracks in Bowling Hut gable end:** Awaiting council action.

**Pavilion Art Project:** Mick and Mark met with artist Henry Quick, who had some ideas but didn't want to take on the project. Mark has sent a follow-up email to the Marple College tutor to see if her new students are interested this year. Mick will speak to a couple of other local contacts who he thinks may be interested.

### **3.3 Park Benches**

**Park benches general:** Routine maintenance to commence as weather permits.

**Town Centre benches:** One bench to refurbish in spring so far (Marshall Shaw).

#### **Policy for replacement of existing commemorative benches:**

Contact has been made with the original donor family of the Newiss bench. Contact from original donors of the other two benches is awaited until October 2019.

### **3.4 Park Buildings and Infrastructure**

**Replacement of Midnight:** Myers Tree Care has some sections of timber available and Mark will visit to see if any of these would be suitable for a new sculpture.

Anthony Crook is hoping to have the existing tree stump removed by April.

**Info board near to Lock 10:** Mark will look at creating replacement artwork as soon as time allows. In the meantime, refurbishment of the frame can be undertaken.

**Painting of Pavilion Building:** Painting under the canopy will be done later this year.

**Breathing Places Reading Circle:** We have a price of £938 from Greenspace to resurface the reading circle and path. Although we agreed to park this project until the demands on our funds was clearer, we later received notification that a Forever Manchester Award Scheme called the Bardsley Fund was due to close at the end of January. As we had no other projects sufficiently developed an application for help with the resurfacing of the Breathing Places Circle surface was submitted.

Terry will look at refitting the birdbath feature that has come off the sculpture.

**Painting of Infants Play area fence:** To be progressed later in year.

**Possible refurbishment of Park Toilets:** We've received two draft options and prices for refurbishment of the park toilets. Mick and Mark will meet with the engineer on Thursday 14 February to understand and develop these further.

Once we have a scheme we like we may have to put on hold while the built area of the park is being considered for the location of a new community centre / swimming pool, as described in the Marple Neighbourhood Plan and announced at Marple AC.

### **3.5 Skatepark Development Project**

**Relocation of CCTV:** Following completion of the tree work we have asked for the request to relocate the CCTV camera to be reiterated. *(Post Meeting Note: Richard Booker has asked TLC Security to quote for this and also raised the request with the Public Protection Team that will now have responsibility).*

### **3.6 World War I Centenary Commemorations**

**Announcements:** William Barnes was announced on 7 February and there are now only two more to go. One in October and the last man in November 2019.

**Repairs to War Memorial:** A lot of the grouting on the top section of the platform has been damaged by frost. This has been reported to Greenspace and they have said they will take another look with the contractor when the weather is improved.

We have also suggested that some of the pointing to the walls needs more attention.

### **3.7 Task Days**

#### **Last Task Day – 26 January 2019:**

Got the year off to a great start. Began bashing the self-seeded saplings in the canal woodland area, worked on the main flowerbeds and wreaths removed.

**Ad-hoc Task Days:** Nothing to report.

#### **Next Task Days – 23 February and 16 March 2019:**

Parking has been approved. Email reminders will be sent out when due.

#### **Task Day Registration / Risk Assessments:**

Risk Assessments up-to-date and Task Days approved until 30 June 2019.

**Scheduled Saturday Task Days in 2019:** 23 February, 16 & 30 March, 13 & 27 April, 11 & 25 May, 8 & 29 June, 13 & 27 July, 17 & 31 August, 14 & 28 September, 12 & 26 October, 9 & 30 November & 28 December.

**Training:** Unfortunately Mick was unwell and had to miss the training he was scheduled to attend on 22 January. Wayne is organising more in the future.

**Tools / Power Tools:** A sapling removal tool made in Canada called a "Pullerbear" has been identified as a potentially good addition to our armoury. A similar UK made tool cannot be found. It would be particularly handy for pulling the numerous saplings in the woodland areas. The cost of the mid-range "Grip XL" model covers saplings up to 2.25 inches and is £158.50 including standard shipping (6 to 8 weeks delivery). Mark will share the details with other volunteers for their views.  
*(PMN: It has been agreed to purchase the Pullerbear Grip XL at £158.50).*

### **4.0 Funding - Status of Funds**

RBS balance at 31 December 2018 was £4,477.92 and current balance in the new Barclays account is £246.00, giving a cumulative balance of £4,723.92.

**Income since last meeting:**

£15.00 Marple Bands standing order January (Barclays).

**Expenditure since last meeting:**

Nil

We have no committed funds at the moment so our working balance is £4,723.92.

The 2018 year end accounts have been submitted to the McInnes Partnership for review. Income for the year was £6,450.95 and expenditure £5,443.31.

**New bank account:** The RBS branch has now closed. We have requested Local Giving payments be redirected to the new Barclays account and await confirmation.

We've received further sets of forms from Barclays asking for information about the type of "Financial Entity" we are. The forms have been passed to the McInnes Partnership, who have agreed to advise on how we should fill them in.

**5.0 Any Other Business****5.1 Social event on New Horizons**

This is almost fully booked with only one place available and two going to the pub stop only. We need to identify the preferred pub stop and make sure facilities are suitable.

*(Post Meeting Note: Now fully booked. Pub stop is the Windmill Inn as Miners Arms is closed for refurb. An email has been sent out with full menu details and options).*

**5.2 Annual Treasure Hunt Saturday 11 May 2019**

Mark met with Di Jackson and Jonathan at Julian Wadden this morning to get the ball rolling. We are looking at other things we can do alongside, including perhaps a cake sale, face painting and a vendor selling tea and coffee.

**5.3 Little Growers**

This will go ahead on a similar basis to last year. 100 Biodegradable cups have been ordered at a cost of £10.31. We need to check on amounts of compost needed and organise seeds etc. Posters will need to be prepared similar to last year.

**5.4 Library Closure 1 to 14 April (reopens Monday 15 April)**

The building is closed for essential repairs for a fortnight. When it reopens it will be to new Open+ / staffed hours. We don't know what these will be yet.

The closure will effect our meeting scheduled for 8 April. Cllr. Allan is looking at alternative venues, otherwise it will need to be cancelled.

**5.5 Parking on the tarmac in front of the Pavilion Store**

Bob was told today by a Parking Warden that he is not allowed to park in this location, although he has been doing so for the Health Walks he leads for many years, while he worked in the park and since he retired. We believe this issue had been resolved and Mark will take it up on the group's behalf with Cllr Allan, who dealt with it last time.

**5.6 Lock 11 Visit**

Wayne is organising a visit in 3-4 weeks time. Mark and Mick (if available) will attend.

**6.0 Next Meeting**

Monday 11 March 2019 at 6.15pm in Marple Library.

**Future meeting dates scheduled for 2019 (library booked):**

11 March, 8 April (subject to available venue), 13 May, 10 June 2019.