

**Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting  
Monday 10 February 2020  
Marple Library**

**Present:** Joyce Reed, Mick Thompson, Lorraine Thompson, Micaela Wood, Terry Wood, Diane Jackson, Cllr Malcolm Allan, Mark Whittaker.

**1.0 Apologies:** Patrick O'Herlihy, Bob Wilson.

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

**2.0 50-50 Club Draw for January 2020:**

By the end of January numbers 1 – 78 were registered and all paid-up. The draw was made using a random no. generator App at the meeting. The winners were:

- 1st Prize: £97 - No. 042 Doreen Clifford.
- 2nd Prize: £59 - No. 030 Greg Jackson.
- 3rd Prize: £39 - No. 020 Philip Wiles.

Total income was £390 with £195 in prizes and £195 allocated to Park Funds.

Prize cheques will be written and signed tomorrow.

The Lottery Return was signed at the meeting and will be submitted to SMBC.

**3.0 Matters Arising**

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

A pre-start meeting with Canvas is arranged for Tuesday 10 March 2020.

**Relocation of CCTV Camera:** Delays continued due to problems sourcing access equipment. The contractor was eventually on site last Friday 7<sup>th</sup> but something has gone wrong as the camera we expected to be moved is still in the old location and it looks like a new fixed camera has been added in the new location. Richard has advised this morning that it is not what he was expecting either but a new camera has been installed instead of the existing one being relocated. Mark has asked that he and Cllr. Allan be given an operational demonstration of both cameras at the control room so that we can ascertain if we are happy to accept this change.

**Graffiti removal requested:** Some clean-up work has been done recently but offensive graffiti on the rear of the skatepark has been missed. This has been reported again and will hopefully be dealt with quickly.

Mick advised that there is graffiti on the rear of the library too, which we will report.

**Repainting of vertical surfaces:** Richard may be able to provide paint for the skatepark surfaces but we need to reach agreement on colours: plain or camouflage pattern. We will discuss doing this while the skatepark is closed for phase II.

**3.2 Bowling Green and Buildings**

**Pavilion Art Project:** Awaiting outcome of the grant application to Awards for All, which is due by end of March. *(Post Meeting Note: notice that this was unsuccessful has just been received from Awards for All – Tuesday 25 February 2020.)*

**Painting of Pavilion Building:** Next job to start after we have repaired fences with the timber stored under the canopy. We'll do this as soon as the weather allows.

**Fitting out of Mess Room:**

Paint was supplied by Wayne and applied by Bernard, Gill and Mark last week. New heater is still awaited, even though it was a safety issue. If it is still outstanding next month we will ask Cllr. Allan to follow-up on our behalf.

### **3.3 New Sculpture Trail Project**

The bid to the Arts Council was unsuccessful. Their letter advised our bid was weaker than other applications on quality or public engagement (mainly the latter we think). So we could possibly rewrite and resubmit. Or maybe we look more closely at raising funds for this in other ways. Mark will talk to Anne-Louise about the way forward.

Mark advised that the next thing he would like to do is to secure availability of the seven logs currently at Chadkirk Ind. Estate by moving them to the council depot at Brabyns Park. We have been given permission to store them there by the council and Mark will ask David Myers of Myers Tree Care if he is prepared to move them for us.

### **3.4 Wild-flower Meadow / Lock 11 Compound**

Preparation work is waiting for a suitable weather window and the park to dry out.

Trees are expected to be delivered at the end of this week and we are awaiting confirmation of a planting date with Wayne and his colleague Jonathan Headlam.

Mark advised that following reorganisation of the Neighbourhood Teams, Wayne will be taking responsibility for another area and Jonathan taking over as our main contact. Wayne will still be around and will hand-over ongoing projects gradually.

*(Post Meeting Note: An ad-hoc task day was held with Wayne, Jon and several of our volunteers to plant the 9 new trees on Tuesday 18 February 2020. Whips will be planted with DofE Students during our next task day on 29 February.)*

### **3.5 Possible Play Area Improvements**

Richard advised he will have a play area sketch design to us by the end of February.

**Consultation on Park Development:** We expect contact in the near future on this.

### **3.6 Benches in Park & Town Centre**

**Park benches general:** Terry will tackle the Peters family bench as soon as the weather improves, by sanding existing slats or using spares from our store.

**Bench near Boules court:** The Neighbourhood Team has obtained a price of £309 to replace the cracked concrete base but cannot afford to pay for it themselves this FY. Cllr. Allan advised that it may be possible to fund this from the Area Committee Highways Budget, so Mark will ask Jonathan to get in touch about this.

Mick highlighted that there is also a section of tarmac along the main path that is a tripping hazard. It was agreed to discuss this with Cllr. Allan and the Neighbourhood Team when we are in the park next week to plant the trees.

### **3.7 Park Buildings and General Infrastructure**

**Info board near to Lock 10:** Ongoing: awaiting replacement artwork.

**Painting of Infants Play area fence:** Pending Play Area developments.

**Possible refurbishment of Park Toilets:** Scheme on hold while the built area of the park is considered for the location of a new community centre / swimming pool.

**Possible Water Fountain / Bottle Station:** No change / on hold.

### **3.8 Task Days**

**Last Task Days – 25 January 2020:**

A great turnout with 22 volunteers attending, including 2 new ones.

**Ad-hoc Task Days:**

Painting of Mess Room walls and floors have been completed over the last 4 days.

### **Next Task Days – 29 February 2020:**

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

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

Everything is updated and approved. Task Days in the park approved until 30 June 2020 and Town Centre activities approved until the end of 2020.

### **Scheduled Task Days in 2020:**

29 February, 14 & 28 March, 11 & 25 April, 16 & 30 May 13 & 27 June, 11 & 25 July, 15 & 29 August, 12 & 26 September, 17 & 31 October, 14 & 28 November.

**Training:** Awaiting new dates from Wayne Bardsley.

**Tools / Power Tools:** 10 new hi-vis vests purchased last month ran out quickly during the last task day, so another dozen will be ordered at a cost of £79.20.

It was agreed to order two new pairs of good quality Bahco hedge shears (same make as our good edging shears) at a cost of approximately £27 each.

Mark asked everyone to consider any shortcomings in tools that we need to address.

It was agreed that the tool store could do with a spring clean and tidy-up and existing tools checking and repairing where possible. There is a rake that needs repair.

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

The McInnes Partnership has agreed to audit the group's accounts for the 15<sup>th</sup> year.

*(Post Meeting Note: accounts have now been audited and returned.)*

**Main Bank Account (Barclays):** Balance = £11,071.44.

Committed funds are £0 towards the Sculpture Trail Project, £2,500 ring-fenced for the Skatepark, £1,500 towards the Pavilion Art Project, £400 for Wild-flower Meadow preparation and £250 for new trees, leaving a working balance of £6,421.

### **Income to Main Barclays A/C since the last meeting:**

£190.00 December 50-50 Club Draw income.  
£177.41 Local Giving.  
£15.00 Brass Bands of Marple (Garden Maintenance).

### **Expenditure from Barclays A/C since the last meeting:**

Nil

**50-50 Club A/C (Santander):** Balance = £745.00.

### **Income to Santander 50-50 Club A/C since the last meeting:**

£335.00 50-50 Club payments during January.  
£20.00 50-50 Club payments during February.

### **Expenditure from Santander A/C since the last meeting:**

£95.00 December 1<sup>st</sup> Prize (banked).  
£57.00 December 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (banked).  
£38.00 December 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (banked).  
£190.00 December 50-50 Club income to Park Fund.

## **5.0 Any Other Business**

### **5.1 Marple College adoption of flowerbed**

No change – we will talk further with college after the skatepark programme is firmed up but it is likely that we may need to create a new flowerbed due to timing.

### **5.2 Library Bird Box**

The backing board is now dried out and Terry will repair during next task day.

### **5.3 Woodcrete Bird and Bat Boxes**

Our application to the Stockport Hydro Environmental Challenge for £275 towards 6 woodcrete bird boxes and 6 woodcrete bat boxes has been successful. A cheque will be presented to us on 13 March but in the meantime the Hydro Team has agreed that we can purchase the boxes in advance so we can get them installed quickly.

### **5.4 Social Event 25 January**

Well received and hopefully we will be able to do a spring or summer one too.

### **5.5 Dog Mess**

Diane has asked Karen Barnes from the Neighbourhood Team if the council would consider measures to encourage dog owners to keep to dogs on leads near to the flowerbeds in the park. The council say they cannot support this as there is no requirement to keep dogs on leads in the PSPO. Karen has suggested trying to organise Dog Warden visits and explained how to do this via the on-line form. She has also made the Dog Warden aware that we will be getting in touch.

## **6.0 Next Meeting**

Monday 9 March 2020 at 6.15pm in Marple Library.

### **Future meeting dates scheduled for 2020 (library booked):**

9 March, 13 April, 11 May, 8 June 2020.