

**Present:** Paul Dale, Joyce Reed, Mick & Larry Thompson, Helen and Phil Wiles, Micaela Wood, Malcolm Allan and Richard Booker SMBC (part time)

**1 Apologies:** Diane Jackson, Patrick O’Herlihy

**2 Richard Booker SMBC**

Richard described the proposal for the new children’s play area and gave out sheets of explanation. All new equipment will be inclusive and some of the best equipment from the kiddies area is being retained and re-installed. There will be a new big item of equipment which is subject to a tendering process. Richard give a sheet describing the spec for the tender. He will ask a focus group of FoMMP to help decide which bid to accept. He was also able to confirm the work has now been brought forward to start as soon as this bidding process is resolved so the new facility could be built sometime in Spring next year – which is a big move forward and gratefully received.

Richard also described another project in which he would like to involve the Friends.

Richard was thanked for his work and his attendance.

Malcolm will circulate Richard’s papers by email and will also make an announcement about the new play area via social media.

**3 Minutes of last Meeting:** Agreed

**4 Matters Arising:**

**Rose the Frog**

Thanks to Patrick who has been successful at getting a quote for the repair work from his contact at £160 plus VAT. We are very grateful for this but would like to check further if there is a cheaper option doing it ourselves (which SMBC advise some others have done cheaply).

Malcom will follow up. No replies yet from Men in Sheds although they have tried to fix another visit to see Rose.

**Community Hub Transition Arrangements**

Mick joined a walk round with the Council on Monday and has made the point again that signage explaining the project and giving updates regularly would be advisable. The sensory garden is being moved so a turning area and layby can be put in for the Senior Citizens. It will be reinstated after the project.

The group discussed the recent Facebook comments on tree removal, but all are happy with the plans which have been misrepresented on social media.

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### 4 Chairs Report:

#### Art Trail

Malcolm gave the outline proposal from Helen Middleton for a trail in March/April next year but had no further information. It was agreed to support this subject to details being provided in due course. Helen has sought permission from the Council

#### Tameside College

After some correspondence there might be a chance of a link up with students interested in using carpentry or other skills for the park. The tutor is away until December and will arrange to meet us.

#### Flags

We have not been flying the Union flag on designated days, which Mark used to do. It was agreed to do so. It was also agreed that we should leave the "Lest we Forget" flag up permanently and swop the Ukraine flag for the Union flag on government designated days.

#### Annual Task List

Anne has already produced a list and Malcolm will link up with her. It was agreed this would be helpful to cover general tasks but not to go into detail on gardening tasks. It was also suggested that we have a Task Leader's check list of duties which Mick agreed to draft.

### 5 **Finance – Treasurers Report**

Di had provided the balance of £10,226.71 with all outstanding bills now paid.

### 6 Review of Remembrance Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024

This went well so thanks to the group who tidied up the park on the task day on 9<sup>th</sup> and to Anne for both laying the wreath at the service and for securing the wreaths over the weekend.

### 7 **Any Other Business:**

Arrangements for the party at Di's on Friday were outlined again.

The group were reminded about the Market at Hawk Green Reading room on Sunday and asked to support where they can.

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# Friends of Marple Memorial Park

## Minutes of Meeting

Navigation, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024



### 8 Date of next meeting/task days.

Next Task Day is **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**: Helen and Phil to lead and do refreshments.

**Next Meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm** in the Navigation upper room.

