

**Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting
Monday 10th October 2016
Marple Library**

Present: Joyce Reed, Bob Wilson, Mick Thompson, Lorraine Thompson,
Adrian Ellis, Cllr. Annette Finnie, Mark Whittaker.

1.0 Apologies: Micaela Wood, Terry Wood, Cllr Malcolm Allan, Patrick O'Herlihy.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting: Agreed.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 ASB / CCTV

Fencing / gating of the WWI Bowling Pavilion

Invoice has been received and payment of £3,150 sent (£3,000 was East INPT grant).

Consultation on better Football Provision

Cllr. Allan continues to chase this but progress is slow due to staffing shortages in Greenspace. The joint chairs of Marple Area Committee have agreed to a short and simple consultation that would be appropriate to address the matter.

Cllr Allan was hoping for more progress before the last AC on 28 September but nothing seems to have happened yet.

It will be two years in November since this issue was raised with the council. Cllr. Finnie will also follow this up to try and expedite some progress.

Possible fencing of Bowling Green

We now have a new layout for the proposal and this was distributed with the agenda for review. It has also been passed to the Bowling Club and they have responded.

The Bowling Club has expressed a strong desire to have the green fenced. The men's group are 100% in favour of the mesh fence option, rather than the railings, and the ladies are split 50/50. The club is concerned about how access for informal bowls will be managed. Currently a permit can be purchased and they hope that it will still be possible to do this. We will raise this when responding to Richard Booker.

The group's position on whether the green should be fenced was debated. There were mixed feelings about it with some members reluctantly agreeing that it was necessary and others objecting. After discussion this was put to the vote of those present, resulting in 4 reluctantly FOR, 2 AGAINST and 1 ABSTAINED. Mark will seek the views of the 4 committee members not in attendance before responding to Richard.

(Post meeting note: this resulted in 2 more reluctantly FOR. 2 no responses after 7 days to count as ABSTAINED – giving 6 FOR, 2 AGAINST and 3 ABSTAINED).

Concerns were raised over informal access – would it be possible to have a key at the library, or would it be practical to lock and unlock at the same time as the toilets?

It is felt that the two seats inside the green area should be relocated outside the fencing so that they are always accessible to the public (the bowlers have said that they can use their portable chairs during match days). There were also concerns about how cutting of the hedge would be managed without damage to the fencing.

These issues will be raised when we give our feedback to Greenspace.

3.2 Play Areas and Play Equipment

The tender is being delayed by sign-off of one of the five other schemes.

(Post meeting note: current forecast was that the tender would be published today with a deadline for return on the 26th October).

3.3 Park Attendant (no change)

Cllr Allan has confirmed that the Executive decision to maintain the budget for a full time attendant was agreed at the Annual Budget meeting in March and was minuted.

He is seeking further information on:

- What has happened to that money?
- It is not being spent on a full time attendant and the proposed cuts included our park being maintained by a roving teams, as it is now. So it could be construed that the money is possibly being spent in a completely different way to how the Executive decided. So, how and where is it the money being spent?

3.4 Park Benches

General Bench Maintenance

A picnic bench that was damaged and pulled out by vandals has been repaired off-site by Terry. It just needs to be returned and reinstalled when he is able to arrange it.

Town Centre Benches

The Bradshaw family sponsored bench is complete including plaque.

The Samuel Oldknow and Sew-In sponsored benches are complete awaiting plaques.

The Wetton family sponsored bench is awaiting final treatment and plaque.

The SVC Lighting and Electrical and Ardek Ltd sponsored benches are in progress.

The Carver Theatre has paid £160 sponsorship for a bench and so has the Munday family. Both benches should start in the next couple of weeks.

Marple Business Forum has been asked about sponsoring the last one on Market Street and Derby Way. We will look at the four Hollins benches next year.

Plaques were ordered for Sew-In, Samuel Oldknow, Wetton family, SVC Lighting and Electrical and Ardek Ltd at a total cost of £214.60.

Our belt sander overheated. A replacement has been purchased at a cost of £50.98.

We have around £600 in surplus funding that can be transferred to the skatepark project once the benches currently in progress have been fully completed.

3.5 Park Buildings and Infrastructure

No changes. Myers Tree Care is on the lookout for replacement logs and a suitable trunk for the longer-term replacement of Midnight.

3.6 Skatepark Development Project

Latest Skatepark Project News

The Food and Drink Day on 17 September raised £564.60 – thank you to everyone who helped on the day, and especially to Micaela and Terry who did all the hard work collecting and collating prizes for the tombola. A £50 donation was also later received from a Mr G Winterbottom, who spoke to us at the Food and Drink Day.

Well done to Jay, who pitched successfully at "Marple Soup" and won £240.50.

Canvas has submitted a revised design that gets us back on track to the £100k budget. This was reviewed with the Skatepark Project Team and then a meeting was held with Canvas, the Team and the council last week to discuss in more detail.

The council has confirmed acceptance of some cost cutting options that were tabled and Canvas will now tweak the design based on discussions as soon as possible to get us into a position so that an order can be placed once we are ready.

Skatepark Funding Update:

Target:	£100,000	
Community Funding:	£43,444	(growth of £975 since last meeting).
With match funding:	£86,887	
Balance needed:	£13,113	(reduced by £1,950 since last meeting).
We need to raise:	£6,556	(50% of balance).

Fund Raising Events:

Art Auction – Friday 14 October

All set for this coming Friday. We'll need help setting up from 10am and on the night.

Robin Sunflower will be providing entertainment.

Doors open 6pm for viewing, Bar opens 7pm and auction to start around 7.45pm.

Marple Co-Op has provided a brilliant hamper for the raffle.

Grow Your Tenner – Launches Tuesday 18 October at 10am

This is the same as last year - £10 donations made after 10am on Tuesday 18 October will be double by local giving and then doubled by our match-funding.

3 x £10 monthly donations will be worth £130 with Gift-Aid.

Christmas Collections at Asda 15 to 17 December

Tabards have been purchased.

A pop-up display needs to be designed and ordered.

The rota can be sorted in details a little nearer the time.

3.6 World War I Centenary Commemorations

Timeline Commemoration

Joe Burrell and Arthur Hoole were added on 25 September.

Dennis Hall is due to be added on 14 October.

WW2 Plaque

Thanks to Anne Frazer spotting an Imperial War Museum record that shows details of a plaque once stored at the Ridge Danyers College, we now know that the plaque in the park is the one that was given to HMS Maple. This is because the IWM record describes the one presented by the Admiralty to MUDC. Unfortunately this plaque is recorded as missing in 2002. Mark has asked the college to see if they can trace it.

War Memorial Registration and Survey Workshop

Anne has kindly agreed to attend the workshop on behalf of the group.

3.7 Task Days

Last Task Days – 24 September 2016

Focused mainly on the woodland area behind the library but also litter-picking throughout the park and moving the composted leaves ready for this year's too.

Next Task Days – 15 and 29 October, 12 and 26 November 2016

The 29th October and 26 November are registered and approved. 15 October and 12 November will be Ad-hoc task days.

Mark will arrange parking and send out task day emails around a week in advance.

Saturday Task Days scheduled for 2016

Approved: 29 October, 26 November and 26 December. **To register:** All of 2017.

Ad-hoc Daily Task Days

Daily Task Days are approved on the council's system until 31 December 2016.

Ad-hoc Task Days on 15 October and 12 November are planned.

Town Centre Benches are covered until 31 October 2016.

We've carried out several more task days to progress the bench refurbishments.

Risk Assessments / Training

No change. We are still waiting for suitable dates for Lorraine and Micaela to do the Team Leader training and for Mick and Bob to do the power-tools training.

Power Tools

A new belt sander has been purchased from bench refurbishment funds.

3.10 Equity Housing Grant

An end of grant report was submitted to Equity and they seem to be happy with it.

A copy was distributed with the agenda for attendees to review.

4.0 Funding - Status of Funds

Latest statement dated 22 September 2016 shows a bank balance of £47,483.55.

Income since last meeting includes:

£15.00	Charles Ingham Bandroom regular payment.
£100.00	Samuel Oldknow Bar (should have been listed last month).
£120.00	Miscellaneous Local Giving donations.
£160.00	Samuel Oldknow Bar (bench sponsorship).
£160.00	Wetton family (bench sponsorship).
£564.60	Food and Drink Festival.
£160.00	SVC Lighting and Electrical (bench sponsorship).
£160.00	Ardek Ltd (bench sponsorship).
£240.50	Marple Soup donation.
£113.29	Collected in Park.
£50.00	Mr G. Winterbottom Skatepark donation.
£160.00	Carver Theatre (bench sponsorship).

Expenditure since last meeting includes:

£111.13	Tabards (Equity).
£214.60	Plaques.
£5.60	Belt sander dust bag.
£50.98	Belt sander and belts.
£2.00	Security Screws.
£20.99	Gazebo weights (for safety at Food and Drink Day).
£5.98	Ping pong balls (for Wheel of Fortune).
£13.78	Rubber stamp for cheques.
£8.77	2 boxes of 200 latex gloves.
£8.10	Grit sand (to fill gazebo weights).
£7.90	Sanding sheets.
£2.97	3 x packs of 5 paint brushes.
£3,150.00	Bowling Pavilion fencing and gates.

Income this year to date is now £17,731 and income total is £92,349.

Spent year to date is £4,893.

Committed funds in account are: Skate Park £43,444, WWI Display £128 and Town Centre Benches £702 (around £600 to transfer to Skatepark when completed).

This leaves a working balance of £228.

5.0 Any Other Business

5.1 Roman Lakes Tea Dance: 26 November

18 places are all booked and paid for. Event starts at 5.30pm, finishes approx 9pm.

Attendees should bring their own alcohol and arrange own transport.

5.2 Wreath / Remembrance Service

Our wreath will be ready for collection on 29 October from the Bowlers' Hut. Mark will arrange £25 payment and ask Terry if he wants to lay it again as he likes to do it.

6.0 Next Meeting

Monday 14 November 2016 at 6.15pm in Marple Library.

Future meeting dates scheduled for 2016/17 (library booked):

14 November and 12 December 2016.

9 January, 13 February, 13 March, 10 April, 8 May and 12 June 2017.