

Friends of Marple Memorial Park

Minutes of Meeting

Navigation, Tuesday 15 October 2024



Present: Malcolm Allan, Patrick O’Herlihy, Joyce Reed, Mick & Larry Thompson, Micaela Wood, Phil Wiles, Diane Jackson

- 1 **Apologies:** Helen Wiles
- 2 **Minutes of last Meeting:** Agreed
- 3 **Matters Arising:**

Rose Frog

Rose and Rosebud have sustained some damage after being moved (possibly thrown) into the playground. It is now placed in the ‘cage’ to prevent further damage and until it can be repaired. There was discussion about the best way to proceed. Men in Sheds who are already involved with the plinth attachment process could be asked if they can help with repairs. Patrick knows the manufacturer of the frogs and offered to liaise with them. MA to send photo of damage to Patrick.

Boules Court

It was decided to leave further discussion of the Boules Court and revisit it in April 2025 to review the situation.

Community Hub Transition Arrangements

MA circulated a proposed plan from the Council for the location and layout of the new playpark and equipment. The proposal is for the 2 current play areas to be combined into 1 larger area with a combination of equipment suitable for different ages and physical capabilities. The fitting out of the new playpark will be towards the end of the Hub project and will consist of a mix of retained existing and new additional equipment. This includes a large multi-use structure and the Friends will be involved in the selection of this item. The current Junior play area will be out of use during construction work, the Teen play area will stay open during the construction work but will be closed while the new play park is added. MA is expecting an electronic copy of the plan with photos of the new equipment and will circulate when received.

There was discussion about the lack of detailed information in the park about when the new library facilities will be available in the Scout Hut. People were positive about how the recent construction in Stockport was signposted during the works to make the public aware of what was

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happening and we will ask if something similar can be done in Marple.

Marple Beavers bulb planting

Malcolm oversaw the Beavers bulb planting on 24th September. The locations of bulbs were marked with stakes and signed with the names of the individuals who had planted them.

4 Chairs Report:

Remembrance Sunday 10th November 2024

A wreath has been ordered the will be collected and paid for from Hollins on Saturday (19th October) by Mick & Larry.

An offer of some primula plants for the park has been made by local lady Kim Reader, Malcolm will follow up. (NB after meeting: Malcolm has now been in touch with Kim and is arranging to collect the primulas).

We recently received an email from long-time volunteer Bernard Kelly saying he was no longer able to attend on Task Days and requesting that we removed him from the volunteer register. It is never easy when one of our team needs to 'retire' and Bernard in particular will be sorely missed. We would like to put on record our grateful thanks for all the hours of hard work Bernard has completed during his volunteering days with Friends of the Park and wish him all the best for the future.

5 Finance – Treasurers Report

DJ reported that Barclays Bank had now sent their closing statement dated 19 September 2024, confirming that the account is now closed.

Balance at Santander Bank 15 October 2024 £18,831.26

Including £150 of £152.37 raised on 21 Sept at Make it Marple

Teddy Tombola £70.14 *(thanks for Helen Mitchell, Marple Youth Project for donation of Teddies and support on the day)*

B'Dazzled Jewellery sales £70.00

Collection Tin £12.37 including £8 raised from Honesty Seeds sales

Other income raised from sales of Honesty Seeds during Task Days in the Park:

28 Sept in the collection bucket for sales of 21 packs @ £1 each plus Local Giving £4

12 Oct 21 packs @ £1 each via Local Giving (£20) plus donations in collection bucket.

Awaiting outstanding invoices for the following:

MT & LT

MA

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Exercise Equipment £8,619.96 (NB post meeting – invoice now received and paid)
Moveable Goalposts £984.00

6 Task Days

Next Task Day is Saturday 26 October: Malcolm is Task Leader and Larry is on Refreshment.

MA suggested having a leaf mould bay which would eventually provide compost

7 Any Other Business:

Patrick reported about the current green waste pile, commenting that it is now covering parts of the path and there are large chunks of wood too. Malcolm said he would report this to Jon Headlam as it was becoming a Health and Safety issue, and ask for SMBC to remove it.

Barbara Ormrod submitted a comment via Larry about the Park Information/Interpretation Boards being in bad condition and could probably do with replacing. Marple History Society and/or the Civic Society have provided text for the Boards previously. The decision centres around when is the best time to supply new board and can the current boards be fixed in the short term.

Joyce commented on the muddy boots and dirty wet jackets left strewn about in the Mess Room making the place dirty. Also comments that an item of wet weather gear had been left hanging on the Bi-Centenary photo display in the 'cage', which was rather upsetting.

8 Date of next meeting.

Tuesday 19th November at 6.00pm in the Navigation upper room.

MA

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