

# Friends of Marple Memorial Park AGM 2020

## Note for the Record 28 February 2021 (final)

### 1.0 Distribution:

**Committee:** Mick Thompson, Mark Whittaker, Micaela Wood, Patrick O’Herlihy, Bob Wilson, Terry Wood, Gill Whittaker. **Regular Meeting Attendees:** Lorraine Thompson, Joyce Reed, Cllr. Malcolm Allan, Diane Jackson.

### 2.0 Introduction:

Due to the Covid19 pandemic it has not been possible for the group to hold a monthly meeting since 9 March 2020. It was also not possible to hold an AGM in 2020 covering our 2019 year-end. This would normally have taken place around June 2020.

Furthermore, despite being awarded a grant for a Zoom licence, a very limited number of our committee are equipped to use any kind of remote meeting software.

As this situation has gone on for so long, and seems set to continue for a significant period into 2021, this note was prepared and circulated for agreement by the committee and regular meeting attendees until we are able to meet together in person again.

It has been agreed to place on record the following Chairman's Report and Treasurer's Report for our 2019 FY, which has been confirmed / approved via email correspondence.

It was also agreed via email correspondence that officials elected at the 2019 AGM (held on 10 June 2019) will remain in office at least until we can meet again physically to hold a normal AGM, hopefully sometime later in 2021.

### 3.0 Chairman’s Report

#### Successes and achievements (since the last AGM in June 2019) until the end of 2019

- We continued to work with the council to overcome ongoing delays and difficulties with the plans for further improvements to the Skatepark and conversion of the Basketball Court to a Multi-user Games Facility (Marple Skatepark Phase II).
- We completed refurbishment of the last of 17 Town Centre benches on Market Street, Derby Way and The Hollins and retreated those that we had refurbished in previous years.
- We funded the refurbishment of the Reading Circle pathway and hardstanding.
- We launched Our 50-50 Club Fundraiser, which has been a great success.
- We continued to campaign and lobby for the relocation of the CCTV camera overlooking the Bowling Green to a new position that would allow monitoring of the Skatepark.
- Following a complaint about the Skatepark we developed a Complaints Policy to address how we would deal with future complaints made to us about any aspect of the park.
- We worked with the council to develop plans to refurbish the shared Mess Room in the park with new kitchen units and cupboards and agreed to redecorate the room.

- We began to work with Art Stop CIC to develop plans for our Pavilion Art Project and a grant application for £10,000 from Awards for All was submitted in December 2019.
- We worked with independent fundraiser Ann-Louise Black to put together a bid to the Arts Council for a new Sculpture Trail feature in the park. An application for £13,600 towards a project with a total value of £23,180 was submitted at the end of December 2019.
- We helped Churches Together install the metal Nativity Sculpture on Market Street and agreed to take-over removal, storage and installation of this feature in future years.
- We investigated installation of a bottle-filling and drinking station in the park.
- We installed Street Poppies on park lampposts on behalf of the Poppy Appeal.
- We took part in the St Martin's Church Christmas Tree Festival.
- We created a Happy to Chat Bench in the park and also one on Market Street.
- We held "Little Growers" sessions during our task days in March and April.
- With the help of his family we funded the installation of cobbled-setts to create a hardstanding in front of the Danny Winter commemorative bench in the park.
- We began to work with the council to develop a design scheme to merge, enlarge and upgrade the Infants and Junior Play Areas.
- We satisfied the council's policy to spend 12 months seeking the original donors of 3 old commemorative benches so that they can be replaced when it becomes necessary.
- We developed plans with the council and CRT to take over the planting of new trees and sowing of a wildflower meadow on the site of the compound used for Lock 11 repairs.
- We began talks with Marple College about the adoption and planting of a flowerbed.
- We have continued to maintain the bandroom garden for the Brass Bands of Marple.
- A total of 24 regular and ad-hoc Task Days were held in the park during 2019.
  - Our task day logs show that over 1,000 volunteer hours have been worked in 2019, saving the council more than £10,000 in the year based on £10 / hour.
  - We have had up to four Duke of Edinburgh Award students regularly attend our task days as part of the DoE award scheme.
  - Our programme of bench maintenance has continued to ensure that all benches in the park are in the best possible condition.

#### **4.0 Treasurer's Report 2019**

The McInnes Partnership audited our accounts for the year 1st January to 31st December 2019 and a certified income and expenditure sheet was produced. This is attached to this note for the record. McInnes has provided this service free of charge for 16 years.

Our income during 2019 was £9,026, taking the total money raised since the group began to £122,713 at the end of that year. This was just the money raised directly by the group and passed through our own accounts and did not include other grants, income and

match-funding we helped to bring into the council's coffers for the park, which amounts to a further £283,000+.

The main highlights in the year were:

- £2,867 Treasure Hunt 2019, £1,979 Local Giving donations, £1,000 from the Canal and River Trust (towards the trees / wildflower meadow), £750 from RBS for switching our bank account, £600 Town Centre Bench donations, £516 income from the 50-50 Club, £278 collected in the park, £234 from the Marple Website, £180 in monthly payments from Marple Bands, a £100 donation from Marple Carnival and several smaller donations.

Contributions coming in via Local Giving have again been significant with a net total of £1,979. This is broken down as £1,755 donations, £222 Gift-Aid, less £118 transaction fees. So the £96 annual fee continues to be a worthwhile investment.

In the year we spent £3,114, taking our total spending on the park to £112,106.

Our outgoings were:

- £985 on refurbishment of the Reading Circle.
- £651 on the setts in front of Danny Winter's bench.
- £453 on tools and materials.
- £201 on Public Liability insurance.
- £110 on plants and seeds.
- £110 on Face Painting at the Treasure Hunt.
- £96 Local Giving fee.
- £45 on Flyers for the 50-50 Club.
- £40 on an SMBC Lottery Licence.

At the end of the year we had a bank balance of £10,606 in the main Barclays account and £770 in the 50-50 Club account, with a total of £8,150 committed to various specific projects.

#### **4.1 Banking changes:**

At the end of 2018 we opened a new bank account with Barclays because the RBS was due to close in January 2019. Before we reached a point where we were ready to close the RBS account we were invited to switch to another bank and receive a switching fee of £750. A switch to Santander was completed in April 2019 and we now have two accounts: the main regular account at Barclays plus the new one at Santander, to be used exclusively for the 50-50 Club.

#### **4.2 50-50 Club:**

By the end of 2019 the 50-50 Club was well established, with 3 draws having taken place and a 4<sup>th</sup> due to be made in early January 2020. Total 50-50 Club subscriptions received to the end of the year were £1,705. £466 of this was allocated to prizes and £469 as park income. £47 of prizes were donated back to the park by the winners, resulting in a total of £516 paid to the park fund in 2019. A balance of £770 in the 50-50 Club account was attributable to subscriptions paid in advance.

## **5.1 Election of Officials**

### **5.2 Chairman**

Mick Thompson will continue as Chairman at least until the next physical AGM.

### **5.3 Treasurer / Minutes Secretary**

Mark Whittaker will continue as Treasurer at least until the next physical AGM. Mark will also continue to write minutes and letters on behalf of the group and act as key contact.

### **5.4 Secretary / Social Secretary**

Micaela Wood will continue as Secretary and Social Secretary at least until the next physical AGM.

### **5.5 Committee**

In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, the following members will continue as committee members at least until the next physical AGM:

Mick Thompson  
Patrick O'Herlihy  
Bob Wilson  
Micaela Wood  
Terry Wood  
Gill Whittaker  
Mark Whittaker

## **6.0 Any Other Business**

### **6.1 Special Meetings to conduct 50-50 Club Draw**

Special Meetings have continued to be held each month in order to conduct the FoMMP 50-50 Club draw. Attendees have been kept to a minimum, have usually met outdoors and at all times within government guidelines. A record of these meetings is available on the group's web site: <https://www.marplememorialpark.org.uk/meetings.html>

## **7.0 Next Meeting - TBA**

**Friends of Marple Memorial Park  
Income and Expenditure Account for the period  
1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019**

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Income</b>		
Julian Wadden Treasure Hunt	2,867.00	2,103.96
Local Giving Donations	1,979.47	1,103.07
Canal & River Trust	1,000.00	-
Marple Area Committee Donation	-	1,000.00
RBS Switch Payment	750.00	-
Auto Trader Community Fund	-	1,000.00
50-50 Club Income	516.00	-
No 48 Kitchen & Bar Sponsorship	250.00	-
Donations Collected in the Park	277.65	544.73
Marple Brass Band Donations	180.00	210.00
Donations from Marple Beer Run	-	200.00
Marple Co-op Collection Box	-	131.25
The Marple Website	232.75	100.00
Marple Carnival	100.00	-
Donations under £100	65.00	55.02
Easyfundraising Income	20.66	-
Town Centre Bench Sponsorship	600.00	-
Council refund of cost of new locks	42.75	-
Plants refund due to poor condition	31.48	-
Refund of Bird Boxes	113.09	-
Bank Interest	0.57	2.92
	<b>9,026.42</b>	<b>6,450.95</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Ocean See-Saw	-	3,554.00
WW1 Display	-	1,090.49
Refurbishment of Reading Circle	984.92	-
Setts in front of Danny Winter Bench	651.50	-
Tools and Maintenance Materials	452.69	344.08
Public Liability Insurance	200.60	195.00
Bird boxes from RSPB	155.94	-
Plants and Seeds	110.01	138.74
Local Giving Fee	96.00	96.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Wreath)	-	25.00
Plaques for Town Centre benches	154.15	-
Face Painting at Treasure Hunt	110.00	-
Printing of 50-50 Club Flyers	45.00	-
SMBC Lottery Licence	40.00	-
Bird Boxes (Later refunded)	113.09	-
	<b>3,113.90</b>	<b>5,443.31</b>
Surplus/Deficit Income over Expenditure	5,912.52	1,007.64
Balance at Royal Bank of Scotland	-	4,477.92
Balance at Barclays	10,606.44	216.00
Balance at Santander	770.00	-
	<b>11,376.44</b>	<b>4,693.92</b>

**Certification**

I have examined these accounts and the records on which they are based and certify that they constitute a true record of the same

*The McInnes Partnership*  
The McInnes Partnership  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
20/2/20