

Friends of St George Park Annual General Meeting

Held 2-4pm, Monday 10 June 2019, Bethesda Methodist Church, 134-140 Church Rd, Bristol BS5 9RB.

If you have any questions about this document, please email info@friendsofstgeorgeparkorg.uk or write to:

Friends of St George Park
c/o St George Community Centre
Church Road
Bristol BS5 8AA

In Attendance & Apologies for Absence

Because these minutes are available as a public document on our website, we do not list member names for privacy reasons. The names of the officers and committee members are given where permission has been obtained. If you are a member of Friends of St George Park and would like to this information, please use the contact details above.

Minutes

Review of the past year's activities.

1. The Chair presented the Annual Report for 2019. A copy can be found at: <https://friendsofstgeorgepark.org.uk/assets/documents/2019-annual-report>
2. Monthly litter picks:
 - a. Statistics are reported to Bristol Waste, who provide bags.
Action: Secretary/Treasurer to get an electronic copy of the form.
 - b. There had been a shortage of equipment at the last litter pick.
Action: Agreed that the Secretary/Treasurer should purchase more high-vis jackets, litter pickers, bag rings and any other items required for health and safety as well as the number of people participating.
3. It was noted that the Community Garden group were holding around £390 of funds that had been raised for the Community Garden. These needed to be paid into the bank account and marked for use in the Community Garden.
Action: Chair/Treasurer to follow up.
4. Consider obtaining small grants (e.g. from Quartet) to support gardening activity.
Action: Community Garden & General Garden groups to consider.

Financial report for 2018.

5. The Chair thanked the previous Treasurer for their work and support.

6. The Acting Treasurer presented the Financial Report for 2018. It was noted that:
- a. There had been a surplus of £86.
 - b. The bank balance was subject to confirmation.
 - c. The Green Capital and NP amounts were available for use under the terms of the original grants.
 - d. There was a surplus of £3,171 available for general expenditure
 - e. The base expenditure for 2019 was primarily on insurance and meetings. This was likely to be less than £300, so the financial position is sound.

Action: Treasurer/Chair to update banking arrangements and processes as well as confirming account balance.

Action: Committee to consider use of unspent grant amounts.

Action: Treasurer to source "donation tins" which could be put out during group activities.

Election of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and other Committee members

7. Seven appointments to the Committee were proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously, including. Other names are available to members on request:
- Nick Burroughs (Chair)
 - Christine Cuthbert (Treasurer)
 - Maggie Waldon (Lake Project)

Vote by Committee members on a resolution to adopt the Proposed Constitution

8. The Chair noted that the Objects of the Association in the existing "2013 Constitution" were still ideal but that areas such as membership, committee structure and changes to the constitution needed updating. The Proposed Constitution that had been circulated to members reflected these updates. The Proposed Constitution was adopted by unanimous vote and is now active. A copy can be found at:

<https://friendsofstgeorgepark.org.uk/assets/documents/2019-constitution>

Any other business raised by the members or the Committee

9. It was noted that the St George Bristol Bowling Club were seeking to use the three spaces in the park marked for use by people with disabilities. The Chair had responded to the Parks Department that the group was against this for several reasons. This view was endorsed by the meeting.
10. It was agreed that the group would have a stall at Redfest on 4 August. This would include a tombola and plant sale.

Action: Events team to organise, calling on other members as needed.

Action: Maggie to contact Redfest and arrange a stall.

Action: Events team / Treasurer to source a new portable gazebo for events.

11. It was agreed that a new sign was needed to display at litter picks and events. This should include a new logo to replace the current swan logo. It was felt that a graphic might be better than a photo.

Action: Events team to follow up with a member who offered their graphic skills at the meeting to create a new logo.

12. It was noted that there was a meeting to discuss options for community buildings in and around the park at 2-4 on 23 June at the Community Centre. Members of the group are encouraged to participate.

13. It was suggested that a membership fee could be charged to join the group. It was agreed that since there were adequate funds in the bank and the group wanted to encourage new members this would not be done but could be reviewed in future.

14. It was noted that previous ideas about having outdoor gym equipment had not been followed up.

Action: Events team and Treasurer to investigate.

15. It was noted that reinstating drinking fountains had been popular in the recent survey by St George Community Network.

Action: Chair to follow up with a member who has contacts with a charity that supports this.

16. It was agreed that the group would host a park photo calendar competition on the website. The Secretary has set up an email address for this.

The draft page, including rules, is at:

https://friendsofstgeorgepark.org.uk/surveys/respond?survey_id=39242858 for comment.

The selected photographers would receive copies of the calendar as prizes. The cost was around £300 for 100 copies. A donation of £5 would be suggested for each calendar.

Action: Events team to coordinate actions on this including how and where calendars will be distributed, and donations collected.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 1-3pm, 12 August at Bethesda Hall.