

## Friends of Palewell Common & Fields

### Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3 Oct 2018 at 7.30 pm at 49 Hertford Avenue

Present: Jessica Rettie (Chair), Robyn Phillips, Rikki Marks, Bernard Adams, Dhun Kenny, James Thornton, David Evans.

1. Apologies for Absence: Antony Hunt, Andy Sutch, Justine Nagaur.
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 July: the Minutes were approved.
3. Matters Arising: The following points were made in relation to the issues discussed in July –
  - Jessica said that she would prepare an autumn update for posting on our website etc.
  - Some members had not received the text of a message to be used to recruit new members - David said he would resend it.
  - Dhun said it had not been easy to compare the list of those who had agreed to receive emails with those who had renewed their subscription. She would check again with David
  - David said he had been unclear which tree was hanging too low near the Brook. Robyn explained where it was and David agreed to ask Richmond to deal with it. [Note added after meeting – the Council has already cut back the tree.]
  - There had been no further comments on the AGM minutes and it was agreed they should be posted on the website subject to final presentation at the AGM next year.

Actions: Jessica to prepare an autumn update for posting and emailing to contacts.  
David would resend the text for a recruitment email and ask Justine to post the AGM minutes on the Friends website

Dhun would contact David about the list of contacts

4. Finance report: In Andy Sutch's absence there was no finance report. David said that there had been some mistaken payments into the account and the Andy was working to repay those concerned.
5. Membership report: Dhun said the current number of paid up members was 47 – 3 up from the last meeting. It was agreed that Jessica would look to simplify the online form on the website so that we were only asking for simple contact details.

Action: Jessica to look at simplifying the form for membership applications.

6. Conservation and volunteer days: Rikki said that two conservation days had been arranged by Richmond with TCV volunteers – 17 Oct and 5 Dec. The first could focus again on the scrape – although it was not clear what more needed to be done until we had seen how the water behaved over the winter. Rikki would check with Tasha to see what was intended. Alternatives were work on the frog pond or on the orchard. The second (5 Dec) would be to spread wood chips on the paths in the woods – Rikki had ordered 3 lorry loads from Richmond. Hopefully TCV could provide enough volunteers and wheelbarrows. We should also publicise the volunteering opportunity on the East Sheen Village website.

7. Jessica asked whether we make any progress with the seating round the scrape. David said that the wood from the large tree cut down over the summer might be used but heavy lifting equipment and a skilled chainsaw user would be needed. Rikki said that seats like this had been made around Barnes Common by "Bob the chainsaw?". She would see if she could provide more information for Jessica who would ask Richmond if it was possible to use the wood from the cut down trees. Bernard reminded everyone that there was still some surplus wood on the boules pitch.

Action: *Rikki to check the arrangements for the two conservation days with Richmond.*

*Jessica to follow up with Richmond on possible seating around the scrape.*

8. Sports update: James reported that the situation with the golf hut remained unsatisfactory with little or no cooperation between the golf contractor and tennis. The new contractor seemed to be limiting the hours the course was open and it was unclear what would happen from November onwards. The condition of the course had deteriorated. Andy had been trying to follow up with Continental to see what was happening. The Committee expressed concern that potential players were being turned away. Jessica agreed to write to Yvonne to express our unhappiness about the position.

Action: *Jessica to write to Yvonne about the problems on the golf course.*

9. Halloween event 3 Nov: Jessica said that she would contact Andy to get the equipment used last year. David and Robyn said they would be available to help. It was agreed we would aim to start at 10.30. Robyn would provide a small table and David the fliers etc to give information about the Friends. Robyn would also bring her credit card machine to take card payments. Jessica would ask Justine to arrange suitable publicity.

Action: *Jessica to finalise the arrangements with the assistance of Robyn and David.*

10. Other items:

- It was agreed that Jessica would write again to the football clubs to ask them to remind parents to take rubbish away from the Common after matches.
- There was a short discussion about whether it would be possible to use the upstairs changing rooms more effectively. Jessica said we should try to look at them after the Halloween event.
- The provision of toilets in the weekdays on the Common was not satisfactory since they were only available when either the café was open or there was a sports booking. It was not clear whether there was an easy solution to this.

Action: *Jessica to write to the football clubs about rubbish left on the Common.*

11. Date of next meeting: It was agreed that we should look for a date early in the New Year in mid January. David will circulate a doodle poll.

Action: *David to find dates for the next meeting*

12. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.