

Date of Meeting: Thursday 11th March 2021

Place of Meeting: Google Meetup

Purpose of Meeting: Committee meeting



Present:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Tim Part	(FoBHF Chair)	TP
Jo Miller	(FoBHF Committee Member)	JM
Graeme Miller	(FoBHF Committee Member)	GM
Helen Raggatt	(FoBHF Committee Member)	HR
Richard Ibell	(FoBHF Treasurer)	RI
Jo Bell	(FoBHF Secretary)	JB
Megan Eaves	(Dark-Sky Association)	ME

Ref	Minutes	Action
1.	Dark Sky Certification	
1.1	ME introduced herself as a local resident, friend of the fields and delegate of the Dark-Sky Association. ME explained that the organisation is international, usually delegates dark spaces such as national parks, but also have an urban certification to award light pollution reduction. There is potential to certify the fields under the Dark Sky Association's urban methodology as it doesn't have lights and is already used as a star gazing location. ME advised that her initial post on Facebook had been positively received and she has liaised since with Lewisham and Glendale.	Note
1.2	ME explained that the award would require admin and new signage. ME is willing to do the admin. The DKA requires signage stating that the park is a dark sky place. GM suggested this could be incorporated into the new signs and asked for example copy to review.	ME
1.3	ME is keen to ensure that this is supported by the community. ME suggested an informational sign about sky features or wildlife. <i>Post meeting note:</i> Suggest running a FB poll once the festival poll is closed.	Note
1.4	TP circulated the Dark-Sky information via WhatsApp.	Note
1.5	GM queried how best to gauge community support considering some interest in lights in the park in the past. JB advised that the initial Facebook group response was overwhelmingly positive.	Note

1.6	TP advised that the council may find the costs of installing lights prohibitively expensive.	Note
1.7	ME advised that there is nothing which would preclude lights in the future though shielding would need to be incorporated to reduce their light pollution impact. She understands that this may be a contentious issue considering the Sarah Everard case but the certification is in no way anti light or anti safety.	Note
1.8	TP queried the timeframe of the application process. ME advised that the application goes via the International Dark Sky Association. The pre-app is free and generally the process takes 1-2 years but may be quicker due to the lack of changes required to the fields. You then document the fields, lodge the pack with Glendale, Lewisham, the Friends, then send to the IDA who will then advise success, assist with PR, etc.	Note
1.9	TP advised that the group will read the information provided and discuss it at the next meeting. All thanked ME for her time. ME left the meeting.	All
2.	Festival	
2.1	TP advised that Brockley Max are not organising a physical festival but a digital one instead due to Covid.	Note
2.2	HR advised that other festivals are going ahead.	Note
2.3	JB advised that the Hilly Fields Midsummer Fayre is being organised for mid-July 2021 in as normal a format as usual.	Note
2.4	HR suggests that there may be quite a bit of interest in a festival for people to look forward to though she is nervous about the usual date at the start of July due to the risk of restrictions being elongated. Best to avoid holidays so we don't lose volunteers. Perhaps Sept would work?	Note
2.5	GM suggested it might be a reduced version of the festival. JM suggested it would need to be adapted to be Covid safe.	Note
2.6	RI advised that there is a point at which it would become financially unviable if it was reduced too far but at the same time the FoBHF could do with making some money. We should find out what the council rules are, insurance position.	Note
2.7	TP suggested we look at the big financial outlays: total approx £2.5k, money comes in from stallholder fees, stage £1.4k.	Note
2.8	JB agreed that pushing the date back slightly is a good idea to give a margin for error with the government opening up schedule and to give visitors a chance to get more used to going out.	Note
2.9	HR suggested that we should all take responsibility for the Covid restrictions, with one person heading up that part of the organisation.	Note
2.10	GM suggested that we can't be sure of the government restrictions happening on schedule.	Note
2.11	JB enquired as to the long stop date. HR advised that usually be Feb we would have secured the date, volunteers, etc.	Note
2.12	JM advised that we should be clear about why we are doing the festival – to raise money, awareness of the friends, interest in the fields. Perhaps a scaled back event can achieve that without the risk of the wasted resources if it was cancelled.	Note

2.13	RI advised there may be terms we could agree with the stall holders, etc. to give us more time to make a decision either way without incurring loses.	Note
2.14	HR suggested that there is little scope for limiting numbers.	Note
2.15	RI to speak to Lewisham about their regulations and our insurer.	RI
2.16	JB reminded the group that the government regulations were that 21 st June 2021 is for all legal limits on contact to be removed.	Note
2.17	HR to look at other local festivals are engaging with stall holders i.e. Hilly Fields.	HR
2.18	TP to create a Facebook poll to gauge community view.	TP
2.19	TP suggested a stripped down version would allow us to do something interesting with the layout. It would also reduce pressure on the paths.	Note
2.20	TP advised we should research, do a survey and attend another meeting in a week. Meeting to be Thursday 18 th March.	All
3.0	AOB	
3.1	Gym: Committee discussed the possible locations for the gym equipment following the site walk with Peter Maynard. All discussed and agreed that the best was to the west/ southwest of the monkey bars. Ideally no trees will be affected using Branded Spared Eagles using the "What Three Words" references. TP to relay location to installers.	TP
3.2	Water fountain: TP advised that a water fountain is being installed adjacent to the play area at the Blythe Hill Lane entrance paid for by the Greening Fund. RI advised that the friends are contributing circa £4k towards the Greening Fund items including signs, gym, water fountain, which has been set aside.	Note
3.3	Signs project: GM advised that the signage walk around with Peter Maynard was done in December. 1no. location was to be tweaked and PM stated that the friends will be responsible for the signs once they are installed. It was also agreed that Glendale will manage the installation free of charge and remove the existing signs. The removal method was not fully resolved – to be discussed further with Glendale.	Note
3.4	Signs project: HR has been chasing Lewisham archive for the images for a number of months. PM has chased the information internally at Lewisham but it has not been forthcoming. GW advised that we may need to get the images from another source, depending on cost. GW also needs to get the project recosted. GW to recost and confirm to RI.	GW
3.5	Community garden project: HR has dug out the contact details of the volunteers for the project from the Rise Café event. HR to make contact with them to start pulling together a proposal. GM advised that we should look at funding from outside sources once we have a build and maintenance plan. TP suggested that company sponsorship is an option but it was agreed that this is not the preferred route.	HR
3.6	Saplings: JB asked whether there is a plan to remove dead saplings. All tree planting is done by friends not Glendale. JB to speak to Zaria in the first instance about how the locations are chosen and to organise dead tree removal.	JB
3.7	Trees/ plants generally: All agreed that we would really benefit from having someone on the committee who understands trees and plants. TP to email Darren to see if he is still interested in planning the trees.	TP

3.8	Table tennis: JB queries a maintenance plan for the ground around the tennis table. RI advised that we need to take a lead on it at the table, parallel bars and pull up bars. GW advised that the matting was originally installed by Marcel and Ocean. JB to speak to Ocean. RI advised there is money aside for the trim trail maintenance.	JB
4.0	Date of Next Meeting	
4.1	Meeting about the festival Thursday 18 th March 2021. HR/ TP to circulate details.	TP

Minutes Dated: 18.03.2021