**AGENDA**

**MEETING FRIENDS OF SCHOLES PARK**

**4th February 2021 8.30pm**

Venue: ZOOM MEETING

1. **Attendees**

**Apologies**

Vanessa McManus

Victoria Harris – Communications Officer

1. **Actions from last meeting covered in relevant sections in the agenda**
2. **City of Trees** 
   1. See email and plans sent by City of Trees
   2. Planting due to start in March
   3. FOSP have requested to include improved access/paths, nature trail, and community and school groups to be involved in planting and maintaining the trees.
   4. Lum Head have been in contact to say they would love to be involved in tree planting or any related activities. We plan to make sure all the local schools and pre-schools are involved wherever possible
   5. We have discussed the future plans for a large orchard and lines of fruit trees with Stockport councils Arboriculture and Habitat Officer Anthony Crook. We discussed a row of fruit trees adjacent to the play park near the existing planters and then the large orchard on the long grass/wild flower area adjacent to railway track extending back to near the Barrowdale Ave park entrance. We will push for heritage variety fruits as a link to the orchard which was located historically close to Scholes Park. We will ask AC for an update on time scales.
3. **Proposed Gatley Golf Club development** 
   1. See leaflet delivered to local residents
   2. Impact on and opportunities for Scholes Park. Developers plans include improvements to Rosa Vale Park and we are the same distance from the golf course. Section 106 funding? Request to be made for Scholes Park access
4. **Requirement for all weather paths for access into and around the park**
   1. We can point out to the council out how well used the park is both pre covid and during and how the increasingly wet winters are creating ‘no go’ areas in the park.
   2. Investment around Parrs Wood an example of what could be done, there are all weather paths round there that have encouraged various exercise initiatives and even a mobile coffee shop is servicing the paths
5. **Protecting green spaces in light if the spatial framework changes**
   1. Can we protect the park in the long term with a field in trust?
6. **Fly tipping campaign**
   1. Poster and facebook campaign. “We go to pre-school here, please don’t fly tip” etc. Brookside pre-school have provided the first photos
7. **Path improvements.** Feedback from last meeting sent to the council. To go ahead during Feb half term. Council have been informed about the homeless people camping near the path and the welfare department are involved in offering them support.
8. **Update on SMART planned archaeological dig application.** Update from Andrea. No further news since last meeting. Plan to push ahead when social distancing rules lift, and the lottery funding opens again.
9. **Funding** 
   1. **Activity Trail £11,500 – See Simons funding mind map.** Funding already raised
      1. Donations on the just giving page £495
      2. £700 gifted from SPRING group
      3. Goldthrope family time capsules £120
      4. Dudley fund £500
      5. Application made to the ward flexibility fund for £1000. This is being referred to the Brookfield Park Shiers Family Trust for consideration. David Clee has requested further information on the anticipated usage by children in different age groups?
      6. Calendar idea
      7. Further planning applications to be made as per funding mind map and actions from the last meeting (BH Tesco community fund, JO to make application to John Lewis Community Support fund, VM to review the opportunity to invest with the Gatley Primary School Trust. KG confirmed Lum Head plan to do charity bag packing days in the new year)
      8. Liz Bradbury suggested Police Community Fund
   2. Stockport Hydro Environmental Challenge – Applied for £200 for Christmas lantern event
   3. **Information Sign Adjacent to the Children’s Play Area.** Brookfield Park Shiers Family Trust have awarded funding of £1,470. We are waiting for the funds to be transferred. Install of the sign to be progressed when funding is received
   4. URC Elders are bidding for Dudley Trust money and FOSP are in the list for consideration,
10. **Planned events. On hold currently due to Covid.**
    1. Christmas robin trail planned in the park. Robin ornaments and signs purchased/produced. The council rejected our risk assessment due to Covid concerns. Postponed until next Christmas
    2. Further events will be considered in the spring including maintaining the planters with schools, storytelling event, family picnic, mile run event.
    3. Christmas lantern event planned.
11. **Proposed changes to constitution**
12. **Any Other Business**
    1. Link with Stockport Greenspace forum. FOSP to get back in touch with them
    2. Next FOSP meeting