MINUTES

**MEETING FRIENDS OF SCHOLES PARK**

**1st Oct 8pm**

Venue: GATLEY ELM ROAD URC CHURCH HALLS

1. Attendees

Bridget Hanley (Chair), Simon Goldthorpe (Treasurer), Jo Outterside (Secretary), Keith Holloway (Councillor), Vanessa McManus (Gatley Primary Head Teacher), Tracey Payton (Gatley Primary and Kingsway High School Governor), Clare Phethean (Friends of Gatley Carrs).

1. Actions from Last Meeting

Reviewed and further actions covered below.

1. Accounts

Accounts presented by SG. See separate sheet. Funds remaining of £558.40 this year considering liabilities.

1. Community Planting Area
   1. Last minute plans for schools planting day 2nd Oct discussed. Groups from Gatley Primary, Lum Head Primary, Kingsway School and Brookside nursery attending. Appeal to community for plants and some have been received and also some purchased.
   2. Plan to apply for grants to install sign. Discussion on what information should be included on the sign. Map of park and general info. Introduction to FOSP. Kids drawing. Either permanent display or type where you can insert information. **JO to get quote from Sign and Display and Gatley Print. Committee members then to make grant applications.**
2. November/December task day.
   1. Plan to plant bulbs. **Action Jo to request some from the council as they buy in bulk. Also can buy in bulk at last day of Manchester Christmas markets.**
   2. Suggestion to invite Scout and Guide groups but may not be possible due to dark evenings.
   3. Plan to do general tidy activities. E.g. painting railings. **JO to ask council what general maintenance they are planning to do.**
   4. Tasks around woodland Improvements, identifying trees and pruning etc. Decision made at this meeting to focus on more general tidy up actives around the park first. **CP agreed to contact Dr Pollard from Friends of Gatley Carrs to see if he would be happy to advise or get involved in the future.**
3. New bench in play park
   1. Action to request an increase in funds from Stockport Homes to cover the higher cost of £1200 (old spec was around £950) of the benches and £400 installation. BH feed back that Stockport homes could not increase the funding to over £1000 but we can still put the grant towards the bench. The council have agreed to pay for the installation. We can cover the additional £250 from current funds and therefore are going ahead. The council are currently having the bench constructed and will install and invoice us the £1200. It is due to be installed before Christmas. Fruit tree to be planted in the middle.
4. New equipment in play park
   1. Plan to install a replacement roundabout and another piece of equipment for young children, e.g. pirate ship. **BH to email council for quotes. Committee members to apply for grants.**
5. Improvements to path entrance to Scholes from Gatley Primary
   1. Gatley Primary explained that they have agreed with the council to install a path from Scholes Park to a back entrance into Gatley Primary school. This is funded by Gately Primary and work is due to be done by the council in October half term.
   2. **VM and TP agreed to ask the council if they can also lay a short section of path to the entrance to the running track, to allow disabled and pram access and safer access for all to the running track.**
   3. Poor condition of the path on the entrance to the park from the path at the side of gatley primary. Tree roots are protruding from the path and are a trip hazard. Reports of one child already being injured. Has been reported to council by SG and others. **KH to raise with the Council.**
6. Plans for running track
   1. Discussed at last meeting particularly with Alex as the leader of the Gatley Runners group. Alex has provided quotes for refurbishment approx. £20k. **JO to send quotes to Simon who can also consider alternative quotes.**
   2. Agreed even a partial refurbishment would benefit the community even if it only lasted for 1-2 years.
   3. **Suggested applying to the Airport fund for maintenance as they fund maintenance activities as well as capital. Action JO**.
   4. JO has emailed schools to ask if they would support and determine how much they would be willing to contribute to maintenance. Response only from Gatley Primary. **JO to follow up with other schools**
   5. Gatley primary agreed to be involved with a fund raising race event with other local schools and others and match-fund money raised by GP**. JO to follow up with other schools. VM, TP and JO to arrange fund raiser race in the spring.**
7. Gatley sports day – FOSP trail race or orienteering
   1. New idea at last meeting for Gatley Sports day for FOSP to hold, or support with an activity in Scholes such as a cross country race or orienteering. Geocache also suggested.
   2. Follow up with Alex Masidlover when they begin sports day plans in November. Clare Forest Gatley VP organiser of the Sports day also aware of plans. Requirement to check date and general plans for sports day encouraging them to hold in Scholes Park if possible. **JO to follow up with Clare and Alex.**
8. Website

James still agreed to work on this. **JO to follow up with James. SG willing to help if James is short of time.**

1. Incredible Edible North-West Event. Sat 12th Oct 11am-3pm

BH hoping to attend.

1. Pending and new funding applications
   1. Running Bee Foundation – due to hear back in Oct. funding for community planters. **If successful JO to ask if funding can be used for signage.**
   2. Manchester Airport Amenities fund. Could fund higher cost items e.g. play equipment. **Committee members to make applications when we have play equipment quotes from council**
   3. Funding/help from more local construction companies and tip company. **SG to ask them/ make applications**
   4. Brookfield Shires Family Trust. Plan for this fund to focus more on younger children. May be possible to apply for this to help fund running track or play equipment. **KH agreed to let FOSP know how to apply.**
   5. Supermarket counter funding
2. Any Other Business
   1. Next FOSP meeting. AGM. Thursday 5th Dec. Christmas treats promised!