**AGENDA**

**MEETING AND AGM FRIENDS OF SCHOLES PARK**

**4th Dec 7pm**

Venue: GATLEY ELM ROAD URC CHURCH HALLS

1. **Attendees**

Bridget Hanley

Jo Outterside

John Pollard (Gatley Carrs)

Gary Wade

Minutes also include up on discussion with Jacky Budd and Richard Booker at JO and BH meeting with them on 27/11/19

1. **Accounts**

See Annual Accounts report

1. **Updates on work carried out in the park**
   1. Bulb planting day 30/11/19. Blubs received from the council. Plan to do similar next year.
   2. New seating in play area installed 27/11/19
   3. New path to Gatley Primary installed. Thanks to GP for including a section of new path to the running track. Complete approx. 18/11/19
2. **New Play Equipment in Play Area**
   1. Application made to Manchester Airport Community Fund for Seesaw in play area. Due to find out if successful Jan 19.
   2. Also plan to make an application to Shires Community Fund for £1000 as recommended by our Councillors for play equipment. **Action JO**
   3. Opportunity to apply for Government Pocket Parks Fund for funding up to £25,000. Agreed with council to apply for play equipment, a toddler climbing frame boat unit. BH and JO met with Jacky Budd and Richard Booker on 27/11/19 to discuss. Tight deadline with applications in by 31/12/19. **JO to do draft of application and send out actions to other committee members**

Notes on the application:

* For sustainable delivery we need to demonstrate one or more of the listed commitments which includes a robust maintenance and sustainability plan (the council can provide this for the park), green flag community award (Gatley Carrs has this and can provide info. FOSP to apply for this as a long term aim but will not do it time for this application), register as an asset of community value (FOSP can apply for this again as a long term aim), links with local friends of parks forum (FOSP can demonstrate this).
* Match funding. It is encouraged that match funding is obtained and a minimum of 30% is expected. This may limit the amount of grant we can apply for. The council may be able to contribute in next year’s budget. We may be able to count the funds we have raised and spend this year on improvements to the play area/ community garden area.
  1. **RB to send quotes for play equipment and photo of boat unit and measure up for space**
  2. **RB to provide info to demonstrate the parks maintenance and sustainability plan**
  3. **BH and JO to look into applying for green flag community award and registering as an asset of community value. Long term aim.**
  4. **JO to email Rowlinson on the cost of building and installing the planters to potentially include in match funding. Complete.**
  5. **JO to email funders with questions on what we can count as match funding. Complete**
  6. **JO to contact Sue for confirmation of link to Friends of Parks Forum**

1. **Running Track improvements.** 
   1. Gatley Primary School are willing to contribute to cost
   2. Friends of Lum Head Primary group have agreed to participate in some fund raising e.g. a bag pack at a local supermarket. They have said they would use the track for running club training.
   3. Any feedback from Kingsway School? **Action TP**
   4. Discussed with council at meeting 27/11/19. Jacky Budd and Richard Booker said they would need to get advice from Jane Bardsley and the council estates team. They also need to check what is the Playing Pitch Strategy is next year. We will not have a clear approach in time for the Pockets Park funding deadline, so it was agreed to not use this project for the Pocket Parks funding. Jacky Budd said we would need to be careful of conflict with the football pitch use. We await feedback from council on whether they will approve the plans and support funding applications, also on whether the council can contribute
   5. The council said that it may not be possible refurbish the running park through funding from Gatley Primary alone as this would require a lease arrangement.
   6. **JB and RB to feedback on an approach for the running track refurbishment after speaking to Jane Bardsley and the Estates Team and checking the Playing Pitch Strategy for next year.**
   7. **JO to send across quote we have for work to Council. Complete.**
2. **Archaeology Society Plans**

To investigate remains of old farm in car park area at Gatley Hill House. Medieval farm, then newer farm 1800-1935. Dig planned 6th July-27th July. BH and JO attended meeting with the group 20/11/19 and FOSP happy to be involved in open day. Archaeology Society have offered to include a history trail in their bid which would consist of small signs in places of interest and leaflets. JB explained we need to be careful about where we install the signs. They can’t be in the grass as you can’t cut the grass around them.

* 1. **BH and JO to run any plans for history trial past the council.**

1. Other Plans and Funding

Community garden sign. £2100 including install - Stockport Hydro application and other funding required. Will run applications past council. **JO to made Stockport hydro Application**

1. Gatley sports day – FOSP trail race or orienteering**. JO to follow up with Clare Forest and Alex Masidlover.**
2. Website. Previous volunteer has not been back in touch. Currently looking for new volunteer.
3. AGM nominations and votes for members to the committee. Deferred until next meeting due to low numbers.
4. Actions from Last Meeting when not covered elsewhere
   1. JO to get quote from Sign and Display and Gatley Print. Committee members then to make grant applications – Quote requested from Shelly Signs as Council Preferred supplier. Quote received. Plan to apply to Stockport Hydro for funds and will look for another fund to cover the full cost.
   2. Tasks around woodland Improvements, identifying trees and pruning etc. 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 – John is happy to help. He reports that there has been a lack of maintenance in the woodland area. He can provide info on kid’s activities including measuring around trees to ascertain the age, leaf identification chart. Action JP
   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 – Action outstanding
   4. Running Bee Funding application. As not heard back on previous application for raised beds, we may be able to apply again for running track. JO to contact them.
5. Any Other Business
   1. Next FOSP meeting Tues 11th Feb 7-8pm.
   2. Gatley Carrs are looking to work more with schools who may be looking for Eco-School status. FOSP are happy to help and be involved.
   3. Question whether we can have the flood lights turned on regularly at running track. **BH and JO to raise when they next meet council.**