

Collings Park Trust Management Committee Minutes

16th January 2024

at Lexden, Hartley Avenue, Plymouth

Present: Andy Stewart (Chair), Andrew Leigh, Sam Smith, Liz Rawlings, Lois Conrad, Maureen Geens, Tony Bray.

Apologies for absence from Dy Taylor

Liz was thanked for hosting the meeting. Maureen was welcomed to her first committee meeting.

1. Minutes of last meeting (26th September 2023) were accepted. **Matters arising: Improvements to main pathway.** Andrew L agreed to write to Compton ward councillors and ask them for contributions towards upgrading the main path along the west side of the site using their community allowances. Andy S. agreed to seek quotations for undertaking these works to the same specification as the short path leading in from Compton Knoll Gardens.

Membership fees: A reduction in annual fees has been approved by Trustees and fees are now set at: Household £44; Individual £33. No change to Supporter fees @ £12 pa.

2. Health & Safety No health and safety concerns were raised.

3. Finance, Membership & Funding There is **£7,543 in the account** at present. **Membership** stands at 8 household memberships, 4 individual members and 5 supporters, bringing £544 to the accounts annually.

4. Policies, Procedures & Key Documents

All in date and uploaded to the Collings Park Trust website.

5. Progress and Planning for the Community Garden

One Hornbeam and two Walnut trees (the smaller variety) have been procured and planted in the lower area of the site. More woodchip has been laid on the main path. Fruit trees have been pruned (thanks go to Chris Lewis). A new bed has been dug at the north end and a dry stone retaining wall has been built beside the water storage area. Manure is being delivered next week.

Andy S to obtain quotations for reducing the large Ash tree in the upper area.

It was agreed that another Rowan tree should be purchased and planted in the area cleared behind the shed, Andy S to look at funding opportunities. Also to contact Luke Pollard to ask about progress with the Plymouth Pear project and whether a specimen might be available to plant in the community garden.

6. Future Events Planning

The Bonfire Night event on 3rd November was noted as a success.

It was agreed to organise a community Easter egg hunt in the later part of the afternoon of Saturday 30th March.

7. External Events

There has been no further contact from the Plymouth Open Spaces Network (POSN).

Post meeting note: POSN have informed us of their AGM and restart meeting on 7th February.

8. Feedback from Board of Trustees

Andrew L reported that the AGM had been held and that the trust's annual report has been submitted to the Charities Commission.

9. AOB

- A presentation on Collings Park Trust and the community garden will be made to members of the Women's Institute at Emmanuel church hall on Wednesday 6th March.
- It was agreed that 3 x A4 signs be procured asking dog owners to keep their dogs on their leads and to pick up after them.

10. Date and venue of next meeting: Tuesday 30th April 2024, 1900 hrs, Lexdon, Hartley Avenue.