



## Friends of Ruskin Park Annual General Meeting Minutes 20th November 2018

### In attendance

Kevin Crook – Lambeth Parks  
Cllr Becca Thackray  
Cllr Jim Dickson  
Lucy Hadfield (Chair)  
Chris Norris (Vice-Chair)  
Erica Walker (Trustee)

David Benson (Trustee)  
Julie Simpson (Trustee)  
Tobias Hardy (Trustee)  
Natalie Redston (Minutes)

26 other members were in attendance –  
names omitted for website version.

### Welcome

Lucy Hadfield welcomed everyone to the meeting

### Apologies

Nick Edwards (Trustee) and four members

### Previous Minutes

**The minutes of the previous AGM held on 22 November 2017 were accepted**

### Trustee changes

Since the last AGM the following trustees have resigned

- Nicola Bacon

Lucy asked members to endorse the new trustees appointed by the trustees earlier this year.

The new trustees are:

- Julie Simpson
- Tobias Hardy
- Erica Walker

### **The appointments were endorsed by members**

Chris Norris and Nick Edwards stood down and stood again for re-election

### **All existing and new trustees standing for election were approved**

### Annual Report 2017/18

Lucy introduced and proposed the FoRP Annual Report as published on our website and provided to the members in attendance. She started by reviewing our activities and achievements over the year, and appreciating those who made them happen. Most, not all, related to what we said we would aim to do last year, and what we were expected to do as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Lucy thanked all of our key contributors over the past year, both volunteers, trustees and funders. There were many highlights, including the bandstand renovation and a good bandstand programme, work towards a plan for the stable

block, continuing the wheat project. Also there were more invisible activities, such as making communications and fund raising happen, for which Chris, Russell and Dave were commended.

Volunteer members congratulated Charlotte O'Connor for all of the work she has done to coordinate all of the volunteering activities in 2018.

Members highlighted their appreciation for the work provided by the tree group in labelling all of the trees.

Suzanne Vincent and Erica Walker gave an overview of the summer activities for the Paddling Pool highlighting key challenges and successes. Planning is already underway for the 2019 season.

Suzanne highlighted the wonderful wall mural that faces on to the paddling pool area and thanked Magda and Gaia for their on-going support and efforts in helping raise money for the paddling pool from the donations provided at the café.

Julie Simpson provided a brief overview of the very successful events that were held over the year including our annual fete, the summer bandstand concerts, a new harvest festival and coming up a Frost Fair to be held on 16 December.

Julie thanked all of the volunteers who had provided support at the events. An increasing invisible activity was monitoring the applications for events in the park to Events Lambeth.

Kevin Crook – Parks Manager introduced himself and provided a brief overview of current activity in Lambeth on improvements:

- Investment in the Tennis Courts is confirmed
- Plans to pilot Ruskin as a Health Park – a report is being drafted and Lambeth will be fundraising to help with this
- Lambeth will be looking to increase income generation in parks. The approach to events in parks is currently being reviewed which will translate into proposals, with full public consultation in January. All events raise money for the park (through a Park Infrastructure Levy or PIL), per planned attendee in which the event is held. (approximately 80% is ring fenced for the park it is generated in)
- Sports and Parks departments are now one department
- Looking to implement Section 92 Police Officers who would spend 25-30% of time in parks to uphold park by-laws
- There is some S106 money that has been earmarked for Ruskin

David Benson summarised the accounts and took questions.

Looking ahead with a strong financial base, volunteers' skills and capacity were essential for all we did. An ambitious list of priorities was proposed for next year and an appeal was made for even more volunteering and to spread the word it's fun and rewarding. From the odd few hours, hands-on, from time to time, to a more regular commitment for coordinating a project or activity. There were gaps in coordinating the wheat project, the bandstand concerts and in business support.

Lucy submitted the report for approval and adoption.

**The Annual Report was approved.**

### AOB and Questions

Cllr Jim Dickson thanked the FORP trustees and volunteers for their efforts in Ruskin Park over 2018 .

Members asked Lambeth about the toilet facilities in the park as they are quite often closed. This is also the number one area of concern raised on the latest FoRP user survey.

**The meeting closed**