

Advisory Group meeting 14th June 2017 2.0 pm Lux Offices

Present: Ben Cook (BC) (Lux), Ian Henghes (IH) (Acting Minuting Secretary), Ceridwen Roberts (CR) (Friends of Waterlow Park), Sue Tatum (ST) (Chair), Catherine Wells (CW)(Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum), Andrew Wright (AW) (Camden LA) Katherine Ives (KI) (Lauderdale House), Pippa Rothenberg (PR), Richard Shipman (RS)(Friends of Waterlow Park), Eileen Willmott (EW) (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area)

Apologies: Ceridwen Roberts (CR)

Item	Action
 Introduction IH introduced the meeting as outgoing Chair. He reported on his recent discussion with Jessica Gibbons (Trustee). She is very supportive of TAG in its strategic and advisory role as the 'think tank' for the Trust. TAG should avoid getting bogged down in detail or 'actioning' anything it does not specifically have to. It must work to support the endeavours of the Friends, Lauderdale, Lux and others in the park; encourage partnership groupings around initiatives where appropriate; and avoid making too many decisions especially on how to do things as this would potentially disempower others. Where necessary TAG should initiate the formation of working parties, but these might equally be initiated by the Friends. Such Working parties would work to a one page brief agreed by TAG and report back when they have identified key points/issues or reached agreed recommendations. IH was thanked by the meeting for his work over the last few months as interim Chair, IH then handed over to ST to Chair. 	
A. Strategic Development	

A1. Minutes of Strategy Meeting May 16th 2017 AW said that the detailed clarification of park spending is still being put together. AW has circulated an email which sets out the general areas where money has been spent: a more detailed breakdown will follow. However, it will not be possible to provide specific detail in some areas where there is no separation of expenditure.	
KI said it would be helpful to know how much the maintenance of the toilets cost. CW questioned the extent to which the park depot served Camden more generally and, therefore, whether this should be financially recognised. <i>AW said that in fact it is not a borough-wide resource. Property services budget spend money on maintaining the building which is not from the parks budget, so the Trust is not incurring this cost. <i>AW explained it would be difficult to do except by an artificial allocation by sq</i> <i>ft of space, but this would distort certain figures, such as water usage which is high for the toilets.</i> RS asked if rentals should be paid to the Trust as book exercise. AW said the Council does not want to complicate matters and that <i>funds are allocated</i>. Correction from previous minutes: CW agreed to look at signage in heritage parks but not at fundraising which is being considered by CR. IH asked that people correct minutes on google drive themselves when they are made available. Once they are signed off they can be converted to PDF</i>	AW will email changes to minutes or make them directly on Google Drive. Minutes to be considered to be approved once amended.
Action points from meeting:	
A2. Clarification of Park Spend with regard to the £37,000 for repair, maintenance, depots & toilets.	AW and RS are to work on how figures are represented.
A3. Clarification from Camden regarding income generation (item 4 on the minutes) and on the ring fencing of any monies raised by TAG against specific projects	Deferred - AW to send though figures
Initiatives arising from strategy meeting - brief updates and decisions on how to progress:	

A4. Funding & fundraising: CR report circulated re funding and fundraising. ST said this needs to be a working group. PR said we need to find others who might be able to help in the community. PR said money is more likely for projects than running costs. KI said getting income streams is very different to funding specific projects. AW said residents are not keen on large corporate events. PR will help on fundraising and be prepared to Chair from Sept. RS interested in events. IH said it makes sense for activities such as events to be co-ordinated by the Friends or a special group rather than become a distraction for TAG. CW says Maurice has potential £500 for bird boxes so long as there's is a system to clean them out.	Put notice on TAG website to say we are looking for people to join groups eg fundraising. PR will do a fundraising brief for TAG in due course.
A5 Carbon Neutral Park Project: Ben (BC) BC had prepared some initial ideas regarding a zero carbon park and circulated a paper. There could be funding for such a project. AW has forwarded the paper to the Camden sustainability team. PR said this has educational value. CW said Idverde needs to be brought into the fold. BC suggested it would be useful to do a study	AW will circulate a report back from Harold of the Camden sustainability team when available for BC to take forward. BC will then prepare a brief to bring other people in to a new working party.
A6 Enhancing Public Knowledge of the Park: Includes tree trail. Art project. BC circulated link to app. KI said we should try to combine ideas. Lauderdale are looking into something in this space to offer heritage interpretation within the house.	BC RS IH KI to progress. RS will dig out current tree trail and get this online.
A7 Horticultural Management: Ceridwen (CR)	Deferred
A8 Heritage Parks: There is heritage signage information in the public domain. It was agreed that the TAG 'sun' logo would begin to be introduced progressively on new boards where appropriate. CW said there should be no logos on any finger post signage.	CW will continue with KI & PR re Signage working party.
B. General business / reports from working	
parties	
B1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting 28th March 2017	Approved
Matters arising:	

 three times a year for local cultural centres. No minutes are taken but information shared. Will continue. CW said a brief report from Friends for TAG would be valuable. Looking at other options on the mound. £2-3k would be the cost of a full survey for the mound, and this was not seen as good value for money so is not being spent. RS said it would be a risk for the public to use it if it was potentially unstable. AW asked if toilets are cleaner now. BC reported that are indeed improved and the men's cubicle is fixed. Action points from Minutes: B2 Code of Conduct: To consider the Trustee Code of Conduct paper for the Friends of Highgate Cemetery circulated by CR as a base for TAG code - <i>circulated</i> Working parties: B3 Signage: There are 8 big signs. PR CW leading re signage with input from others including KI and IH. B4 Trees and views: IH had circulated the report from the working party, and as leader of the working party reported on conclusions including; protecting views of St Pauls, identifying approximate sites for trees and enhancing existing on board the working party report, and that Camden owned trees policy would become secondary to this. IH then explained that speaking now as a member of TAG, and therefore representing the Trust, the recommendation of the working party was not one that it was practical to accept at this time. IH in conversation with Jessica Gibbons has understood that 		
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given the Trust and Camden Council are currently seen bythe public as largely synonymous, it would be very difficult toexplain publicly that trees might be treated differently inWaterlow Park. Trees can be very emotive and it would be	working party, and as leader of the working party reported on conclusions including; protecting views of St Pauls, identifying approximate sites for trees and enhancing existing views. IH said that the working party recommendation was that a new Trust trees and views policy be prepared, taking on board the working party report, and that Camden owned trees policy would become secondary to this. IH then explained that speaking now as a member of TAG, and therefore representing the Trust, the recommendation of the working party was not one that it was practical to accept at this time. IH in conversation with Jessica Gibbons has understood that given the Trust and Camden Council are currently seen by the public as largely synonymous, it would be very difficult to explain publicly that trees might be treated differently in	IH to meet Camden re

time consuming and therefore costly if Camden had to deal with disgruntled residents unconvinced that they were not being unfairly discriminated against. Therefore the conclusions of the working party, rather than becoming primary policy should be taken as guidance to complement the Camden owned trees policy.	
B5 Any Other Business: BBQs need to be regulated. Possibly only within a designated area and proper enforcement. The Friends currently have no specific proposals on this. Public opinion is not clear, and whilst a majority appear to have reservations it is clear that there are those who support BBQs	Additional consultation / discussion required.
AW reported that the Swains Lane lodge tenants moving out in a month's time.	
AW is changing his working pattern and will be at Camden 2.5 days a week from now with the remainder of his week at the London Wildlife Trust. Gabi will be taking over in liaison with TAG / Waterlow Park. AW and his partner are having a baby in July	TAG members expressed their heartfelt thanks for everything AW has contributed to the Park and to TAG itself.
BC reported that Lux are looking for new Trustees. Ideally someone with finance, and/or museum and/or local advocacy. Time required would involve 4 meetings a year.	
B6 Date of Next Meeting(s) ST requested to know when people are away over the summer. TAG likely to meet next in Sept. Mon, Tuesday Wed morning preferred.	ALL email ST by start July to say when away over the summer.