



Waterlow Park Trust

Advisory Group meeting 1st July 2020 via Skype

Present: April Cameron (AC) FOWP, Ben Cook (BC) (LUX), Ian Henghes (IH) (Highgate Neighbourhood Forum), Gabi Howard (GH) (Camden Park Services), Katherine Ives (KI) (Lauderdale House), Fiona Murphy (FM) FOWP, Sue Tatum (ST) (Chair), Catharine Wells (CW) (Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum, Eileen Willmott (EW) (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Committee), Invited attendee Oliver Jones (OJ) Camden Head of Green Spaces

Apologies: Pippa Rothenberg (PR) Highgate Society

	Action
<p>1. The Chair welcomed all present and thanked CW for setting up the meeting on Zoom, with IH on Powerpoint. EW to take minutes. Minutes of meeting 10/03/2020 (google drive) approved. Matters arising and outstanding actions. Nicky Ezer, events manager, to produce an events policy document. (No events at present due to Covid-19).</p>	<p>Chair to produce a job spec for secretary. Nicky Ezer to be invited to speak at the next TAG meeting</p>
<p>2. Reports:</p> <p>Camden: attached: (see Agenda point 6 also). GH provided an information document on Parks for Health. OJ thanked CW/TAG for reporting Swains Lane gate openings. GH reported that the Swains Lane lodge tenancy is to be renewed for another year.</p> <p>Camden has a Borough-wide Biodiversity Action Plan, paused at present due to Covid-19.</p> <p>It has noted that many people are using BBQs illegally.</p> <p>OJ Camden Council Organigram (June 2020). Gareth Harrison-Poole will return in August as Head of Green Spaces, OJ standing in for him at present. Carole Stewart is Director of Community Services.</p>	<p>OJ to follow up with Camden staff to ensure the gate gets closed</p> <p>GH will inform TAG at a later date on their Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>OJ listed current relevant management roles in Camden,</p>

Friends of Waterlow Park (FOWP) Report:

attached: The closure of the toilets is causing some problems. FM formally requested action regarding the closing of the Public Toilets resulting in there being no toilets in the Park at all as Lauderdale House was closed. She suggested having self-cleaning ones. OJ gave the cost of opening and maintaining 5 toilets over the Borough as £20,000 a month. The Pond Square one is too far away for elderly visitors. OJ suggested that the WP disabled toilet is used as a gender neutral toilet, with the maintenance, safe distancing and cleaning carried out by the member of staff at Pond Square. No one objected to this idea

KI asked for advice from GH and OJ as she would like to open the toilets at Lauderdale House, but her staff are furloughed. OJ said that converting the disabled toilet into a gender neutral one would help her. We are coming to the end of lockdown as outdoor gyms, playgrounds can open on July 1st, increasing the need for safe toilets. In Camden Town, the Ladies toilet is now gender neutral and the Men's closed.

BBQs:

Currently in lockdown Phase 2, BBQs are currently banned but in Stage 3. OJ informed the meeting that the Council would like them to return using the zoned barbecuing area only.

Chair (ST) stated that it had been agreed to review the impact of BBQs on the Park which would include air quality. ; the pre-Covid-19 intention was to review them at the end of the year.

CW reported on the fire danger of BBQing under trees. OJ noted this. IH noted that many people are acting illegally by BBQing which puts Camden in a very difficult position. Staff numbers are low which makes any confrontation a problem. OJ: Camden is producing banners banning BBQs for future use when necessary.

Chair's Report: attached. During Covid-19 visitor numbers to the Park had increased, but not always to the Park's advantage. TAG was not informed beforehand of the closure of various facilities. TAG and FOWP should both be informed. Until last week BBQs in WP were still allowed on some pages of the Camden website, but once Camden informed, were removed immediately.

OJ & GH to explore the WP disabled toilet being used as a gender neutral toilet

Notices are being produced for the Pond Square toilets, mentioning the gender neutral one in WP. Camden is also trying out various sanitizer projects.

Camden toilet staff person to assist KI in Lauderdale House toilet risk assessment

GH/OJ Camden Council to notify TAG & FOWP at least one week in advance of when Camden is intending to allow BBQs in Parks and of any related proposed changes.

ST, IH; BBQ review by the end of the year

OJ & GH to ensure that TAG & FOWP are informed when any changes are being made in/to the park.

Safe distancing and smoking are an issue with the Mental Health Hospital patients at the lower Dartmouth Park Hill gate.

The Chair thanked the park staff for all their hard work during these difficult times.

Lauderdale House : KI Oral report:

KI informed the meeting that the cafe is open only for takeaways on certain days. The Upper gallery is shut. Some small hires are in the pipeline; Channel 5, one small wedding and Lauderdale has procured a grant to purchase laptops. The following events are in hand: a) July music gigs and b) 5 on the tea lawn on Fridays. c) A small opera in August, booking ahead needed.

LUX: BC Oral report:

Currently closed, staff are working online. They hope to re-open in October due to the situation. A series of talks with the Cemetery arranged.

CW report: grateful to GH and OJ regarding closing the barrier after being left open.

Project Updates:

Air Quality Monitoring Project at Swains Lane gate: GH
The data is not complete due to gaps where power was lost.

Trees & Views Update:

EW report : Continuing with DPCAAC tree work during lockdown using the principles set out by TAG's Trees & Views Group and Parks for People.

Signage:

Tracker and Volunteer Groups Reports: Ian Henghes

To note that: only ST, FM IH & GH can edit the Google Sheets.

GH to ask a Camden Officer to attend an online meeting to compare and explain air quality patterns

PR unable to be present at this meeting. Report re-scheduled for next meeting.

<p>IH suggested that FM and FOWP see someone to take a lead in the Sports and Leisure areas (e.g. tennis, petanque) so they can be added to the Volunteer Groups Tracker and we have a point of contact.</p> <p>The Tracker is in two parts: 'Projects' and 'Volunteer Groups' Both are available to TAG / FoWP / Camden</p> <p>Projects is at: http://j.mp/trackwp Volunteer Groups is at: http://j.mp/groupswp</p> <p>GH / ST / FM should check each sheet at least once a month to ensure they are up to date.</p> <p>Project sheets currently being put forward involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Hedgehog Hogwatch Project connecting Holly Lodge Estate, the Cemetery and Waterlow Park b) Volunteer Plant Store needs repairing 	<p>All involved need to be aware of this.</p> <p>Action FM & IH</p> <p>GH to update project sheet ST / FM to look at sheets</p> <p>Date for Waterlow Park set as 10th July</p> <p>Camden agreed to look at this.</p>
<p>Camden Paper: further discussion - CW would like clarity from Camden Parks as to how crimes and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents are logged with the Highgate Safer Neighbourhood Panel (HSNP). GH: morning and weekly reports go to the police hub, crime CAD numbers and ASB too. The police and Council meet every 2 weeks for data tasking.</p>	<p>CW: would like crimes reported in WP to go to the HSNP for public access.</p>
<p>Public Awareness and TAG :Chair</p>	<p>ST: To be report at next meeting</p>
<p>AOB CW: update on Nature Reserve: thanked AC for her vision and hard work.</p> <p>IH: thanked Camden for keeping the Park open during lockdown, it has been a great respite to many people. The meeting closed at 4.10pm.</p> <p>Next meeting date: proposed September 2020</p>	<p>Chair (ST) to set up a doodle poll</p>