



# Waterlow Park Trust

## Advisory Group meeting 7th September 2022

**Present:** April Cameron (AC) FOWP, Ben Cook (BC) (LUX), Ian Henghes (IH) (Highgate Neighbourhood Forum) Chair, Gabi Howard (GH) (Camden LA), Fiona Murphy (FM) FOWP via Zoom, Pippa Rothenberg (PR) (Highgate Society), Eileen Willmott (EW) (Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Committee), Heike Gertler (HG), representing Katherine Ives (KI) - Lauderdale House, Minute taker for this meeting.

**Apologies:** Katherine Ives (KI) (Lauderdale House)

Issue	Action
<p><b>1. Matters arising</b></p> <p><i>Park Data Report on Incidents</i> - Camden collates Antisocial Behavior data. GH can access and download overview annually and give data to TAG. Hard to consolidate with data given to police but can approach them re this.</p> <p><i>Noise Complaint Camden Event</i> - AC noted that complaint made about Camden event in park this past weekend.</p> <p><i>Defibrillator</i> - Requires chase up by KI to be installed 1x on Lauderdale House exterior - ideally as soon as possible. In future, second one up by tennis courts envisaged. Preference that KI/Lauderdale House apply. GH happy to support assist in any way. Grants will need to be looked into, topped up.</p> <p><i>Signage</i> - Still Pending</p> <p><i>Drinking Fountains</i> - GH prefers that FM approach Thames Water regarding feasibility, cost, and where to connect water from. GH happy to support. Camden not able to directly fund water fountains. Fundraising required – FOWP? Preferred location up by tennis courts.</p> <p>AC suggestion to connect to tap at back of Lauderdale House by café. Refill point for bottles, etc. Mentioned in last meeting as well. This would come off Lauderdale House water bill?</p>	<p>IH approach neighbourhood policing</p> <p>KI to progress GH assist</p> <p>PR and KI are to meet on 22 September to progress further.</p> <p>FM approach Thames Water &amp; progress</p> <p>Water may need testing? GH discuss with KI</p>

<p><i>Benches Missing</i> - AC reported that benches are missing from the octagonal shelter in park.</p> <p><i>Basketball Hoop Trial</i> - GH to give report in next TAG meeting – cost for hoops and how it would affect income to the park. Lower 2 tennis courts would have to be blocked/closed for basketball sessions (ie: Friday afternoons) and tennis bookings paused. Basketball has community value so is worthy, but also has cost implications for park.</p> <p>Minutes of May 11th meeting approved</p>	<p>GH to investigate</p> <p>GH to collate info bring to next TAG meeting for decision</p>
<p><b>2. Tracker</b></p> <p>IH explained that 'Issues' list is for short term items and 'Projects' is for longer term/multi-faceted items.</p> <p>FM is 'General &amp; Fabric' group leader –lots of items. IH keen that items get followed through and said TAG meeting was not the ideal forum for much of the detail. GH and FM speak quite frequently and might make more use of the Tracker in their conversations, specifically looking at 'General &amp; Fabric' items in both Projects and Issues</p> <p>IH said that there are a number of instances of General and Fabric maintenance work where there were comments about what had been done and some concerns. Other works are done to a good standard such as railing repairs but the status of works is often unclear if not on the tracker.</p> <p>Agreed by all that early intervention is more useful than addressing after the event. GH explained that health and safety issues are resolved very quickly by their professional team. No capacity in team for advance communication, focus is on resolving issues as quickly as possible. If there are any problems with work, it should be addressed on a case by case basis. GH noted that team need to feel supported, not just criticised. All agreed that praise should also be given for works completed well – ie: recent featherboard fence, railings, rubbish bins taken for sandblasting etc. Thank you's and positive feedback to be given in the teams involved).</p> <p>Highlights of positive upgrades/works (5-10 items) to be posted to the public on the group websites and in newsletters. Roughly every 6 months. IH to collate text. Agreed by all that useful and good practice.</p>	<p>FM and GH to go through tracker regularly when speaking to keep on top of progress.</p> <p>IH to give GH / FM a list of issues where he is aware of concerns.</p> <p>GH</p> <p>IH to provide a 'public highlights' list when GH / FM have next updated tracker</p>

<p>GH noted that tennis courts to be cleaned/jet washed and nets repaired/replaced this month.</p> <p>GH noted that Upper Pond area works now undertaken/overseen by Trudy Wilkinson (James now doing corporate projects only)</p> <p>Hand Dryer Ladies Toilet Out of Order - AC noted that sparks came out of hand dryer and she posted 'out of order' sign. GH to pass on to team that repair needed.</p> <p>Tree labelling - 70+ labels – all done now. AC will schedule in installation with Victor on his return from holiday. Would ideally be in place before the 27 November 'Tree Week' as too much work to hang all in that one week.</p>	<p>GH to progress</p> <p>AC to progress</p>
<p><b>3. Chairs report</b></p> <p>As there was a certain amount of background information IH pre-circulated a TAG Chairs report highlighting a few items:</p> <p>A rapidly undertaken set of measurements of pm 2.5 particulates was compiled into a report on the air quality impact of BBQs and this was also pre-circulated. It will be used as part of the mix when the BBQ group next meet.</p> <p>IH has made initial contact with Whittington Mental Health and mentioned a 'friendship benches' project which is in the Chairs report which may be something of mutual interest. Structured training and support for volunteers is likely included in such a project.</p> <p>GH raised 'Happy to talk' benches – Camden project which Camden very open to. Artist in Belsize Park. Currently in small square in Primrose Hill (and in Southwest and Newcastle). Possible this model might apply to Waterlow or the Friendship Benches.</p> <p>There is a biodiversity meeting this Friday 9 September organised by the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum which should be attended by most local green spaces.. Rita and Ginny (FOWP) are attending and will report back.</p>	
<p><b>4. Draft new clauses to Code of Conduct (circulated)</b></p> <p>IH thanked PR for producing a report on a complaint received by TAG. A recommendation is to review the code of conduct and enhance it in some areas. An initial draft of new clauses was circulated ahead of the</p>	

<p>meeting.</p> <p>AC felt the new clauses do not yet go far enough especially in regards to dealings with people not on TAG.</p> <p>Generally agreed that complaints in writing should be a last resort and it should be possible to address issues verbally.</p> <p>A TAG complaints procedure could usefully become part of the evolving 'TAG Handbook'</p>	<p>PR to look at rewording and bring back to TAG</p> <p>GH &amp; BC to share their complaints procedures</p> <p>PR &amp; IH to consider a TAG complaints procedure draft</p>
<p><b>5. Draft Consultation Guidelines (circulated)</b></p> <p>AC stated that consultations must not be online only as not everyone has online access. Has to be some mechanism to view – and respond – in alternative ways. GH stated that Camden does some online and some in person, on site consultations. Perhaps a drop-in stall needed for trees/views issue. Demographic shouldn't be captured as part of the process – ie: Friend, not Friend, regular park user, where person lives. Can then analyse how representative feedback is of the local community. Focus group might be needed to target specific demographics (ie: young people). PR stated that inclusivity and monitoring important, but can be very time-consuming.</p> <p>The 'trees and views' project will be a test case for new Consultation Guidelines.</p>	<p>IH to take forward with AC and GH input.</p>
<p><b>6. Strategy and Policies</b></p> <p>IH said that other matters had prevented much progress since the last meeting but that looking further at policies is on his agenda.</p>	<p>IH to progress with GH</p>
<p><b>7. AOB</b></p> <p><i>Kitchen Garden Review</i> - AC reported that the Kitchen Garden hasn't functioned as originally envisaged for quite some time and is suffering from pilfering (whole plants and produce) and vandalism, made worse by the lack of footfall during the pandemic. Original vision was for a community and demo garden and harvesting events – not intended for people to have individual plots. Needs to get busier again. Meeting tbc with GH, Rosa, Elaine (?) to rethink. AC mentioned womens group. Need groups who are supervised and regular –</p>	<p>Kitchen Garden group to discuss.</p>

<p>but only works when a member of staff has the right passion and interest. Need people to come more regularly. How Kitchen Garden works could change. Generally high demand for growing projects. GH stated that Elaine would like it more secure, but difficult for Camden to manage different locking times. AC stated proposal to reduce the height of surrounding hedge so a bit more overlooked and not so secluded.</p> <p><i>Blocked Drain by Lauderdale House</i> - AC noted that there is a completely blocked drain on the right side (east side) of the ramp at back of house. KI/Lauderdale to look at getting unblocked as a routine maintenance issue.</p> <p><i>Next TAG Meeting</i> - Proposed for late November.</p>	<p>AC report to TAG</p> <p>KI to progress</p>
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