



Waterlow Park Trust

Advisory Group meeting 4th October 2023

Present: Ian Henghes (IH) (Chair), Gabi Howard (GH) (Camden LA), Katherine Ives (KI) (Lauderdale House), Fiona Murphy (FM) FoWP, April Cameron (AC) FoWP

Apologies: Ben Cook (BC) (LUX)

Issue	Action
<p>Introduction IH announced with regret that Eileen Wilmott and Pippa Rothenberg are both standing down from TAG for health reasons. A vote of thanks was proposed to both who have each served the advisory group well in their different roles over the last years.</p> <p>Minutes from the last meeting These had not been fully prepared by the time of the meeting so will be circulated and reviewed later.</p>	<p>New members of TAG are sought. IH / others to progress.</p> <p>KI to draft doc for potential TAG members</p> <p>IH to update and circulate</p>
<p>Chairs report IH reported on a meeting between himself, AC, GH and Andrew Hinchley (Head of Green Space) with the Waterlow Park Trustee, Oliver Jones (OJ), and a subsequent email exchange.</p> <p>The meeting largely concentrated on clarifying the role of TAG in relation to the Trust. TAG was created at the behest of Camden as Trustee, has a governing document, and a partnership agreement with Camden Green Space and the Trust and has been developing a number of supporting documents and policies. Its contribution to decisions of the Trustee and role in enhancing the relationship with Camden Green Spaces was recognised and thought positive. At issue was some of the language around how TAG is perceived and described.</p> <p>IH had thought that TAG might be seen as a designated Trust body working directly for the Trust. OJ said that it</p>	

<p>should be seen as an independent community / stakeholder body working on behalf of the Trust. This has implications with such matters as the appointment process of new members of TAG who do not need ratification by the Trustee.</p> <p>Regarding strategy and who 'owns' it IH is of the view that TAG should advise on a strategy for the Trust, and made the point that whilst TAG as an advisory group can have its own processes, approach and task priorities, it cannot directly implement a meaningful strategy for the park which is down to the Trust to 'own'. With such a strategy the Trust would then ask TAG, Camden Green Spaces, the Friends and others to work towards achieving the goals that have been identified. IH also made the point that it is only a Trust strategy that would have any real authority. As the current 'strategy' document has not been formally adopted by the Trust, at the time of the meeting it can only be seen as an advisory document. IH reported that there was a concern expressed by OJ about the preparation of a Trust 'Strategy' as this suggested a formal process with higher levels of engagement than TAG would be able to support, (being a body made up principally of volunteers with limited resources). For this reason it may be that it would need to be referred to as a 'Development Framework' or similar.</p> <p>A further concern expressed by OJ was the phrase used online and in multiple documents and articles over the years describing TAG as the 'think tank' for the Trust. No alternative term or phrase has been identified which succinctly describes TAGs' proactive relationship to the Trust.</p>	<p>IH to discuss further with OJ re Trust adoption of strategy / development framework</p> <p>IH to request that 'think tank' continue to be used to describe TAG in the absence of a better term.</p>
<p>Reports & Tracker Reports from the Friends & Lauderdale House were circulated before the meeting. Tracker issues reviewed.</p> <p>IH reported that the engagement on views was getting underway</p> <p>FB discussed petanque / drinking fountains / basketball.</p>	
<p>NOTE There was no minute taker for this meeting so the above is somewhat less comprehensive than usual, but does cover the main topics of discussion.</p>	<p>It is hoped to identify a TAG member who can take minutes or rotate this task in future.</p>