

## **Friends of Coronation Gardens meeting with Enable Leisure and Culture**

**Date:** 27 August 2019, 1.30 to 3pm

**Venue:** Charles's house

**Present:** Marina (Enable) and  
Sam (stepping in for Valerie at short notice, thank you).  
Charles, Susannah, Wendy, Nada (notes) (Friends of Coronation Gardens)

### **1. Feedback from Friends – short term maintenance issues**

The Friends are happy with the painting of railings and covered seat, and thanked Enable for getting this done in time for the picnic.

Some of the trees have not survived the summer.

- **Water supply**

We cannot support new planting without a water supply.

This is an outstanding issue. Ideally, we want more than one tamper-proof taps/hose access points.

**Actions:**

**Susannah to talk to the nursery about using their roof to collect water in a butt.**

**Sam to check if there is any water supply in the Gardens.**

- **New planting**

There needs to be a plan for planting of new trees in November. Watering newly planted trees for the first year should be part of the contractor's responsibility.

**Action: Marina to liaise with Jess and FOGC.**

There are still two holes in the ground. This is urgent as the school terms starts soon.

The fountain (tiled area and bowl) need to be cleaned up.

The railings at the back of the Scout hut have not been painted.

**Action: Sam to chase up.**

### **2. Outstanding issue – Enable**

New benches and bins will be coming in September (the big basket bins should be removed at the same time).

**Action: Sam to find out if there will be a bin near the Merton Road end will a cigarette butt section.**

**Action: Sam will work with the Design Service to do an assessment of the drainage in the Gardens.**

### **3. Planting**

Sam presented his plans for planting of Spring bulbs at the end of October in the existing rose beds. These include cyclamen, tulips and lillies. Two rose beds will be grassed over. FOGC requested that they do not use daffodils in this area and stick to reds, purples and whites.

We propose to have a planting day with Sam on 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **Actions:**

- **Susannah to feedback any other comments on bulbs asap to Sam. Sam and Susannah to liaise about arrangements for planting (eg equipment/timings etc).**
- **Sam to bring some equipment and think about water supply.**
- **Susannah to contact Enable events team about options for supplying refreshments (either commercial coffee sales or free coffee).**

Enable are still planning wildflowers under the avenue.

**Action: Marina to update plans when Valerie returns to work.**

#### **4. Parks Police**

Steve Biggs from the Parks Police attended before the meeting to brief the Friends committee members on their role, staffing levels etc.

They are not an emergency service.

They welcome reports of antisocial behaviour and other bye-law infringements, preferably with date and time (photos are welcome via WhatsApp or email).

They work with the Safer Neighbourhood Team of the Met Police and the Council's Community Safety Team.

- **Action:** Enable will send Friends group basic stats on Parks Police activity in Coronation Gardens every two months.
- **Action:** Marina will liaise with Parks Police about DogWatch information session to coincide with bulb planting (ie 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> October).

#### **5. North West Corner**

Enable have received a grant via the Council to remove the hard standing and make this area fit in more with the rest of the gardens, eg lawns and flowerbeds.

They are open to including FOCG in developing these plans, which could include a planter to be maintained by the Friends, and the possibility of planting herbs and fruit trees.

Susannah expressed concern that leaving the hedge to create a secluded area of lawn might attract anti-social behaviour.

**Action: Susannah and Sam to organise a meeting to discuss further.**

#### **6. Locking the gates**

Steve from the Parks Police pointed out all the risks and other issues involved in locking the gates.

Enable do not have the money to pursue this.

They suggest that FOCG develop a detailed plan including risk assessments and send to the Council (or appropriate councillors/cabinet members).

#### **7. AOB and date of next meeting**

##### **Actions:**

- Sam will let us know when there will be some news that we can announce about the nursery playground.

- Sam and Marina will find out how we can get announcements etc into the Brightside magazine.
- Charles to contact BT about the phone box.

**Next meeting - 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 1-3pm.**