

FRIENDS OF ALKINCOATS PARK
MEETING AT COLNE TOWN HALL
JANUARY 16TH 2017

Present

Marie Oakley
Colette McInerney
D.Clegg
D. Wright
P.A.Clamp
A. Broughton
B.J.Maylor
Marie Jackson
D.C.Riley
Glenda Clegg
David Clegg
Julie Hibbert
Eileen Guf

Apologies

Steve Clamp
Janet Mayers- retired from group as is moving out of area.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approved as a correct record

Matters arising

David Clamp thanked the Council for the erection of the Notice Board . He also raised the issue of dog fouling around the bowling green area which he said is now becoming a problem. He had attended the recent Parks forum where concerns were raised as to future funding of the parks and their maintenance when cuts of £100,000 to £150,000 were made. He had hoped that the Town Council may have offered to take over the running of the Park but nothing had been said. There are worries as to what might happen to Pendle parks if Lancashire County Council take over the running of them in the future.

The new compost area is to be implemented when the weather improves.

On the subject of vandalism and restorative justice we were told that initially Peter had worked with David and Daryl putting in about 30 hours per week for three weeks. They said he had worked extremely hard and were very sorry that he has now gone. No-one seems to be able to contact him as the hope was he would continue to work a few hours per week as a volunteer. Eileen is going to try writing to him.

Café

The Café reopened on January 16th with the official opening being on Wednesday January 18th at 6-8pm. The opening is to be attended by the Mayor and there will be drinks and a buffet in celebration of the event. Eileen said she was very pleased with the whole renovation and extension. Opening hours at present are 10am to 3pm daily except Weds. At Easter these will change to 10am to 5pm.

Adopt a Flower Bed

Bearing in mind the coming cuts in funding, the Group are considering asking businesses to adopt a flower bed . It was also suggested that local schools may like to similarly be involved. The Group has also offered to adopt a bed, albeit a small one ! The Café has offered to take over all the herb beds. Audrey is to look into this suggestion and try to approach some of the larger stores in town.

Sculptures.

Julie is to ask if they can be painted with some sort of preservative.

Brambles

It was agreed that brambles throughout the park are now a major problem and as such pose a danger to the public, particularly children. A Working Day to try to cut them back has been arranged for Sat Feb 25th, volunteers to meet at 10am at the bowling green.

Any Other Business

There is a Parks Forum meeting on Feb 17th, 10.30am at Nelson Town Hall.

A Picnic in the Park is being arranged for Sunday May25th 1pm to 5pm. This will be combined with celebrations to mark the first birthday of the opening of the café. Eileen is proposing to have craft stalls, face painting etc, all proceeds to Friends of Alkincoats and a charity such as Pendle Dogs in Need.

The issue of dog fouling was again raised and the problem of dogs jumping up on people. Questions were asked as to whether dogs should be kept on the lead in the lower part of the park. Julie is to try to get posters re dog fouling installed in the park

The Bowling Green is to open on March 25th and the Academy on April15th. We now have a team who will play in the Craven League and a second team who will play locally. Matches will be on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The hoped for fake cameras have not yet been installed but Audrey is to chase this up.

Date of Next Meeting. Some time in April. Exact date to be decided.

