

Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting
Monday 14th May 2018
Marple Library

Present: Mick Thompson, Lorraine Thompson, Bob Wilson, Mark Whittaker.

1.0 Apologies: Adrian Ellis, Cllr. Allan, Cllr. Finnie, Cllr. Gribbon, Patrick O'Herlihy, Terry Wood, Micaela Wood, Joyce Reed.

2.0 Minutes of last meeting: Agreed.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Teen Area / Skatepark Phase II / MUGA

Still waiting for a decision on the planning application. There are a couple of issues that need to be addressed and a meeting has been arranged with Canvas Spaces and Richard Booker on Tuesday 22 May to identify solutions.

Mark also outlined the current funding status.

3.2 Bowling Green

New flowerbed: Mick, Lorraine, Gill and Mark visited Grasslands to purchase plants totalling £53.42. They were planted during the task day on Saturday.

Possible artwork to pavilion: Mark will meet two students from Marple College with their tutor on Thursday at 4pm. It is hoped that they will be keen for the experience and we will only need to fund the materials needed.

We also have some interest from a member of the Society of Marple Artists that can be followed up if discussions with the college students do not progress as we hope.

3.3 Play Areas and Play Equipment

Treasure Hunt: The event was really well attended and a great success. A record-breaking total of £2,154 was raised, comprising £139 donation on the day, £308 raffle takings plus £1,657 sponsorship and £50+ donated via our Local Giving appeal.

The hard work of volunteer Diane Jackson was acknowledged.

Play Area funding / proposals: With £1,702 in commuted sums and the £2,154 raised at the Treasure Hunt we currently have a balance of £3,856 available.

Richard has provided 3 options priced at £5,000, £7,000 and £10,000. These all include new safe surface and the details were circulated prior to the meeting.

There is a general preference for the "Ocean See-Saw" option at £5,000, meaning that we are approximately £1,144 short at the moment.

A grant application for £1,000 has been submitted to the Forever Manchester / Autotrader Community Fund. We should learn the outcome by around mid-July.

(PMN: Richard Booker will go ahead and develop the Ocean See-Saw option and firm up a quotation so that we are in good shape to go ahead when funding is achieved.)

3.4 Encouraging new volunteers

Little Growers: This has proved very popular and hopefully we'll get quite a few children bringing their results back to the park to plant with us in the summer. We will hopefully do this again as it's been a very low cost but rewarding project.

Marple College students (artwork for lectern): Mark has met with a second (hands-on) tutor but, although she was very enthused, she is not able to make the work fit in with the final five weeks of coursework her students have to do. It's possible that they could run it as a project for next year's students but it would still be towards the end of the academic year, so around May / June 2019.

We need to decide if we should wait that long or pursue other ideas.

Mark has also asked again if the college has any students that could get involved in more practical work such as painting or gardening tasks.

Planting for 100th Anniversary of Votes for Women: Equality Matters have been contacted and they have agreed to provide artwork for two sides of the display board to be mounted on the birdbath in the centre of the bed. They have said they will send the artwork through by Wednesday this week.

Lorraine will provide the artwork for the third side of the display. Gill has obtained some lime green Nicotiana plants that should look great in the bed too.

3.5 Park Benches

Kay bench: We have now purchased ECO-Chem , coarse wire-wool and clear preservative, so we should now be able to get started.

Park benches general: Patrick has made a start on annual bench maintenance. We have also requested a supply of Barrettine preservative from Greenspace.

Grey painted benches at Fletcher Moss Park: Visit to be organised.

Hard-standings for benches: Two Boules Court benches have now had paving installed and it's made a big improvement. One more to do plus 3 at the skatepark.

Scheme for replacement of existing commemorative benches: No news from Ian Walmsley on this item so Mark will chase up again.

3.6 Park Buildings and Infrastructure

Replacement of Midnight: David Myers has confirmed that he's still on the look-out for a suitable tree trunk but we will also look at other options when we have time.

Painting of Pavilion Buildings: Mark has met with Greenspace and Carillion to discuss repairs. They have agreed to replace our lock-up door and to brick-up the redundant window that is in a bad state at the end of the Bowler's Hut.

Greenspace also agreed to raise an order to repair the guttering on the pavilion building and to order the paint we would need to complete this task.

Breathing Places reading circle: This has been discussed again with Greenspace and we are waiting for them to obtain a price for a contractor to do the work.

Painting of Infants Play area fence: Greenspace has agreed to order the paint materials. We have requested that the fence is Jet-washed by the end of May to allow us to get the work underway. We will need lots of volunteers to help and Mark has approached Marple College about this.

Boules Court: We have asked Greenspace to order 6 x 1 tonne bags of 5mm to dust aggregate and to deliver it next to the court.

Tarmac to paths near War Memorial and Offices: Mark has met with Wayne and he is going to seek prices for full resurfacing and also an option for patching the worst

areas. This will allow us to approach councillors regarding possible funding from their Highways delegated budget.

Possible refurbishment of Park Toilets: Mark has met with Greenspace and Carillion and they are going to put together options and costs for a major refurbishment of the toilets and for making them disabled. Once armed with this information we can look at funding opportunities.

Drainage / flooding at park entrance: Wayne has had the drain jetted and cleaned. They got 17m down the pipe towards the park. We now need to wait for heavy rains to see if this has resolved the problem.

3.7 Skatepark Development Project

Possible relocation of CCTV camera: Mark was expecting the recent meeting with Carillion to cover this topic as the representatives had (almost) the same names. It turned out that they were completely different people so this now needs to be followed up separately. *(PMN: this has now been raised with Richard Booker again).*

3.8 World War I Centenary Commemorations

Timeline Commemoration: Since the last meeting Richard Yarwood, Josiah Bennett, Donald Budenberg and Egbert Mackereth have been added.

Next men are Norman Sharples on 20 May and Oswald Neale on 28 May.

Permanent display: The first permanent panel has been fitted.

The next 4 have artwork ready and panels 2,3 and 4 have been printed and should be mounted on boards this week.

We await a proof for panel 5 and the last panel needs the cards preparing.

4 plastic corner covers were purchased at a cost of £2.25. These fitted perfectly so a further pack of 40 has been ordered to do all the rest of the panels for £4.99.

3.9 Task Days

Last Task Days – 14, 28 April and 12 May 2018

High / low lights include problems with dogs and dog mess, a great Treasure Hunt, Little Growers and loads of plants donated by Les and Jean White.

Ad-hoc Task Days: Nothing scheduled.

Next Task Days – 26 May and Marple Carnival on 16 June 2018

Parking is approved. Emails will be sent out when due.

It was agreed to reschedule the 30 June task day a week earlier to 23 June.

Task Day Registration / Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments were reviewed and updated in December and a Task Day Application covering 1 January to 30 June 2018 is approved. A new application covering 1 July to 31 December 2018 has been submitted to Greenspace.

Saturday Task Days in 2018: 26 May, 16, 23 June, 14, 28 July, 11, 25 August, 15, 29 September, 13, 27 October, 10, 24 November & 29 December.

Training / Power Tools: No change.

4.0 Funding - Status of Funds

Last statement on 20 April 2018 shows a balance of £6,708.03.

Income since last meeting:

Treasure Hunt	
£25.00	Springfield Hotel
£30.00	LSA Technology
£30.00	ACM Financial Services
£50.00	Angkor Soul
£50.00	Marple News
£50.00	Byles of Marple
£30.00	Room 85
£40.00	Hawk Green Cricket Club
£30.00	Hatter Arms
£80.00	Vernon Building Society
£30.00	Trek 'n' Travel
£30.00	Little Button Bakery
£30.00	Rose Hill Spar
£50.00	Whittaker's Fish Bar
£50.00	Brabyns Preparatory School
£50.00	Marple Local History Society
£30.00	Kathy's Caterpillars
£50.00	The Marple Website
£50.00	Bloom Hearing Specialists
£60.00	Marple Electrical
£30.00	Inkbox
£446.96	£308 Raffle takings + £139.96 donations.
Other Income	
£95.65	Local Giving

Expenditure since last meeting:

£9.95	Clear wood preserver
£29.95	5 tubs of chicken pellets
£12.97	2 x secateurs + gardening gloves
£2.25	Cable ties
£53.42	Plants from Grasslands
£12.48	Nicotiana plants
£4.95	Wire wool
£15.51	2 x ECO Chem
£5.50	Compost

Three cheques have been prepared for signature covering the above.

Our public liability insurance is due soon (last year's premium was £195).

Currently committed funds are: £1,000 WWI Display £2,104 Play Area Equipment and £200 allowance for insurance, leaving a current working balance of £3,738.

5.0 Any Other Business

5.1 Open Gardens in Marple (7th and 8th July 2018)

An application has been submitted to Greenspace to use the park on 7th & 8th July as an information point and tickets sales. (PMN: This was approved on 24 May 2018).

5.2 Data Protection Legislation (GDPR)

Everyone who wishes to continue receiving updates, minutes and task day notifications needs to confirm by 25 May 2018.

5.3 Future meetings booked

The group's meetings have been booked in the library for the 2nd Monday of each month until 10 June 2019.

6.0 Next Meeting - AGM

The next meeting is the AGM on Monday 11 June 2018 at 6.15pm in Marple Library.

Everyone who can attend, please do!

Future meeting dates scheduled for 2018/19 (library booked):

11 June 2018, 9 July, 13 August, 10 September, 8 October, 12 November, 10 December, 14 January 2019, 11 February, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May, 10 June 2019.