**Minutes for FOGG Meeting 18th June 2019**

**Present**: John Freer, Sue Freer, Keith Wood, June Wood, Karen Thomas, Steve Astin, Eric Middleton, John Mulcahey, Eleanor Dodson. **Apologies**: Adi French, Claire Kennard, Liz Maynard, Julie Couttie.

**Minutes of last meeting:** These were accepted after a minor correction by Karen re the positioning of the keysafe for the Petanque players. Karen will forward the corrected minutes to Liz and deposit them on the web site.

**Matters arising – Picnic Benches** - No progress can be made on installing these until a meeting has been held with the Council representatives responsible for the gardens, Iain Dunn and Dave Meigh. Iain is on leave at present so no date can be fixed. Cindy Benton, Community Involvement Officer; Communities & Equalities Team would like to be present to discuss several issues re the gardens; eg delivery of bark to check weeds in the “gardened” beds; who is responsible for repairs, etc.

**Action – John F to prepare & circulate a detailed list of issues to discuss. Set date for meeting with CYC**

**Finances – treasurers report – Total Bank Funds - £ 3,195.66**

Current Account £1.53

Reserve Account £ 3,194.13

Bank Funds comprising:

Suzanne Ellis donation £1000 (earmarked for picnic benches)

Probable insurance cost £250

General Reserve £1945.66

Insurance costs must be reviewed. The more expensive equipment purchased last year may require more cover. It is unclear whether the council or FOGG is responsible for providing “public liability” cover, and this issue should be discussed at the planned meeting with Council officials. Claire Kennard had said that the mosaic garden group believes they are covered for this by the council.

**Action – Steve A to make enquiries about insurance cover.**

**Events - Picnic in the Park** - It was decided to abandon this for 2019; no musicians were available, and there was no suitable date, and instead to hold a V.E. anniversary picnic next year on Sunday, May 10th 2020. There were suggestions that people should be encouraged to wear 1940s style clothing suitable for a tea dance!

Eric Middleton and John Mulcahey will organise music – Eric has some useful contacts with his neighbours. They will try to organise three sessions with different styles, each about 45 minutes long. They will report back once the possibilities are better understood.

**Action – Eric M & John M to make enquiries & feedback at next meeting.**

**Scarecrow trail -** Gill Oakes will provide help with organising this. The theme, the route, entry forms, voting sheets, sponsorship will all be addressed. A sub-committee of Gill, Karen, Sue & John Freer, Simon & Julie Barnett will deal with the issues. It was suggested that the theme could be Nursery Rhymes. Gill O will give Karen the forms from last year so a mail out can be done to advertise the event, the form will be reviewed as to whether we can add the contacts to the full mailing list, GDPR rules require we obtain consent & must keep a record of consent being granted.

**Action – Set date for & hold sub-committee meeting before next meeting.**

**Kiosk -** There is rather a dearth of volunteers. People offer to help, but then do not commit themselves to a particular slot. It was suggested that the active volunteers should invite likely candidates to shadow their shift, as a third member of the team, and hope this would make them confident to join in. Some volunteers are not very expert, so when they are on the list, it was agreed that two others should also sign up, and that they should be guided towards some specific task.

**Action – Recruit Volunteers - NO PLAN**

**Locking -** Lots of gaps in the rota this week, worst sign up in a while. Eric mentioned he hadn’t received the Doodle emails this week.

**Action – Recruit Volunteers - NO PLAN**

**Issues with youths hanging about -** There has been some vandalism, ASB & drug taking. The Neighbourhood Police Team and the Councillors are aware of the problem. If there is an incident it should be reported on 101. The council youth worker is also going to try to provide youth club activities. Eleanor D fears that this initiative will depend on volunteer support too.

**Action – Councillors & Police**

**Heworth Ward Councillor Bob Webb -** He has suggested holding a “surgery” in the park to meet his constituents. This idea was accepted, but Keith Wood (an ex-councillor) felt it could hardly be called a surgery – most people who had problems did not want to discuss them in public.

**Action – John F to inform Bob W of the committee’s views**

**Gardening -** This is proceeding as scheduled.

**Poetry Bench -** Two more half slabs will be added to the path at some point.

**Heworth Ward Meeting -** John Freer attended. Issues of ASB & responsibility were discussed (see above)

**Any Other Business -** John M. asked that not too much emphasis is put on reports about said ASB & drug taking. Some people he has spoken to believe the park is now an unsafe place to visit!

He pointed out that many of the teenagers are in fact pleasant young people.

**Next Meeting -** 7pm Tuesday 16th July, at Ascot House.