**FoGG - Committee Meeting June 1st, 2021. Held at 82 East Parade**

**Present:** John Freer, Sue Freer, Stephen Astin, Liz Maynard. Karen Thomas, June Wood, Adi French, Eleanor Dodson

**Apologies:** Pamela George, Ruchi Gulati, Julie Coutie (stranded on a Scottish island.),

John Freer welcomed the members after such a long absence. He introduced Mark Geddes who has agreed to join the committee.

**Minutes** of last meeting assumed to be correct.

**Finance Report** Total in bank £14894.54 plus Kiosk float of £50 and £10 donation (found in the gardens)

Earmarked funds are Keith’s Wood phase 2 £10746 from CYC, a further £500 for planting from CYC and £1400 held to pay for picnic benches. There is a balance of £2248 after all liabilities are met. No events have been held in the last 15 months nor has the kiosk been open.

**Recent and Upcoming Events.**

**AGM** - postponed from 2021.  After some discussion it was proposed and agreed to change the venue back to the Methodist Hall as Glen Lodge proved to be unsuitable for several reasons and to hold the event before the clocks change at the end of October and after the kiosk closes at the end of the season. The proposed date is October 13th at 7.30.

**Scarecrow Trail.** This is to go ahead on the Sunday and Monday of the Bank Holiday weekend 29th and 30th August. Karen is to advertise for a coordinator on social media. There will be cash prizes and these will be awarded by judges rather than voted for as in the past. **Will be held subject to having sufficient interest and a coordinator and for further consideration at the next meeting**

**Updates from sub-group activities**

**Kiosk** A meeting of volunteers has been held on May 26th. Fifteen people attended, including some new recruits. They were advised that they need to complete a Health and Hygiene Level 1 certificate or only work with those who already have one. Problems with a door lock have been identified and reported. The group are sure that necessary covid protection measures can be observed, including minimal cash handling. Christine Rafferty has sorted out a rota. The Kiosk will open on July 3rd and will operate as before on Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday from 2.30 to 4.30.

**Garden Group** Gardening in the park restarted in May, with sessions every Saturday from 10-12. About 10-12 people attend regularly, although there are more on the mailing list. The Good Gym Runners have reappeared as well. They come for an hour as part of their exercise regime.

**Keith’s Wood** is progressing. A disabled-access path through the trees has been completed. The council has provided funds to extend this path through the length of the remaining border alongside the tennis courts and basketball court. June thanked Adi warmly for all she has done to make this happen. There are plans to improve the compost area. Ian Dunn arranges for filled bags to be picked up, but these are often too heavy. A tree has come down, and Adi is anxious to use this as evidence of other possibly unsafe trees which should be removed.

**Mosaic Garden** There are fewer volunteers available and the standard has inevitably fallen. An organisation called Green Rascals may take over one bed. Workers in the Mosaic Garden are covered by the Council’s Public liability insurance, not through FOGG

**Petanque Court** Players have now returned.

**Play Ground** The equipment is ageing, and there is very little suitable for school age children. It was suggested that FOGG could pay for some Improvements, but the general advice was to hang fire till we knew what subsidy would be provided by the Hungate developers. (They are meant to pass funds to the Council to pay for refurbishment once they have sold 450 units. They are just short of this target but it was not clear how long we may need to wait. Making a bid for ward funding was mentioned, however there were concerns that we could work through and complete a project that could well be undone by a another (? Bigger) scheme not long after potentially making it a waste of time, effort and money

**Table Tennis** An outdoor table is to be installed by the Council in place of the long narrow border in front of the bench by the Flagstaff.

**Date of next meeting** Wednesday 23rd June 7pm Ascot House.