

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday 13th September 2017 6pm at the REconomy Centre

PRESENT: David Mitchell (Chair), Jeannette Willington, Frances Gillmore, David Martin, Jim Carfrae, Marisia Willoughby, Keith Rennells

1. APOLOGIES: Lu Overy, Marsha Cummings, Shirley Prendergast

2. MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of the 5th July 2017 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

None.

4. QUIZ NIGHT

Dave reported that the Bay Horse Quiz had raised £166 for the LGA, which he handed over to Jeannette.

Action: Jeannette to bank the cash

5. Keiths' Invoice

Jeannette confirmed that Keith's invoice for the work he did for the Garden Projects Day had been paid.

6. Keiths' Report

Keith reported on a series of questions and issues he had raised with Richard Ellingham at SHDC:

- a. Inspection of the Play Equipment: Richard carries out a monthly routine visual inspection – any problems are reported to the Property Services Depot for fixing (it was agreed that we would like copies of any such reports). Once a year Allianz (SHDC insurers) carry out a safety/engineering inspection and again any problems are fixed by Property Services.
- b. Sandpit: Richard inspects the sandpit on a monthly basis. He should rake over the sand (checking for faeces) too. Keith had found no problems when he raked the sandpit that day. Keith also confirmed that SHDC would top up the sand pit with play-grade sand if an inspection reveals it's needed. Keith also asked about disinfecting the sand pit – SHDC pointed at a ROSPA page that recommended a 5-yearly remove/sieve/disinfect/replace process.
- c. Benches: Richard inspects the seating too on a monthly basis.
- d. Dogs: SHDC are proposing new Dog Control Orders – Keith will ask for the Leechwell Garden to be included.
- e. Keith has already asked for an "Age Appropriate" sign to be fixed to the Play Tower – he will chase this up. **Action:** Keith to follow up
- f. Keith will ask Richard for an informal meeting with the LGA Committee in the near future.

David Martin raised the issue of the path resurfacing. Keith said this is definitely a job that should be done this Autumn. He has specified what is required, including replacement of the rotten sections of wooden edging. He has asked for the bark chip sections to be topped up at the same time.

Action: Keith to follow up

Keith agreed the bank needed cutting this month and will get SHDC to trim it. When he knows the date he will let us know so we can organise a rake session afterwards (as in the past). Up to now this has been an annual task, Keith thinks it should be done twice a year – Spring and Autumn.

Action: Keith to coordinate

7. Pool Area

In Shirley's absence it was agreed to postpone discussion of this until the next meeting. Keith will ask SHDC about their plans to deal with the Japanese Knotweed re-appearance.

Action: Keith to pursue the issue.

AOB:

Jeannette outlined a suggestion made by Sue Holmes that the third gate (the one at the bottom of the Heath Way houses) should be replaced with one made like the existing two gates, with the words "Susie's Gate" over it, in memory of Susie Boyd – the driving force

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behind the creation of the Garden from the very beginning in 2003. Dave agreed to look up the estimate from John Churchill. It was agreed we should organise a local community campaign to raise the necessary funds. (*Dave - John Churchill had quoted £2500 for a gate in 2012*).

Keith raised the subject of pollarding the willows at the lower end of Heathway. It was agreed that Keith and David Martin would try to do the job. **Action:** Keith and David

NEXT MEETING: The next Committee meeting will be on Wednesday 18th October 2017 at the ReEconomy building, starting at 6pm.

Action: Dave to reserve room (**DONE**)