

## **Friends of the Moor Committee Meeting Weds 9 November 2016, 7.00pm, Knutsford Town Council Meeting Rooms. Minutes 129**

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**Present** Debbie Jamison (Chair), Michele Hammond (Vice-Chair), Jan McCappin (Secretary), Peter Russell, Andrew Malloy, James Power, Adam Keppel-Garner Quorate (ie 5 committee members, at least 2 officers) No - 3 officers, 4 members attended,

**1 Welcome and Apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Stewart Gardiner ( Treasurer), Jacque Grinham, Jane Cartmel, Police Sergeant Kelly Rooke and PCSO Callum Welsh,

### **2 Decisions**

**Birdwatch** - JM would invite Jane Cartmel and KOS members again, and check with KOS whether Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January, morning or afternoon would be best. AKG would produce a poster and Michele H would assist in communications to the public and especially the scouts.

**Bird signage** – AKG reported the Manchester Airport grant (£2800) should be enough for 3 interpretation boards and their art workings. The boards are lectern style with glass reinforced plastic. There are 3, one for water birds, one for other birds and one for other flora and fauna. AKG had contacted KOS for advice in choosing the appropriate birds to illustrate and JM has a list of species seen in previous birdwatches which may also help.. The water bird board should include advice to avoid giving bread to the ducks. AKG will circulate drafts of the boards to the Committee members. It is hoped to unveil the boards at the Birdwatch.

**Rotary Jog (19 March) fundraising event.** FOTM would like to take part, providing a team for the jog and run an event there with outdoor games and an information tent with details on FOTM. DJ and AM would contact the Rotary Club to discuss this, ask for a small donation ( c £100 for insurance) and also offer to loan litter picking equipment A jog event notice will be put on the Moor noticeboard. Run Knutsford will be contacted by DH and MH for help with training and printed tee-shirts may be bought from Site Supply for team members.

**Christmas Tree Festival, St Cross Church, w/e 9-10 December, plus lantern parade 5pm ( from service at St Cross round town to crib/carols site for another service).** FOTM have been offered a free tree and decided to accept (DJ will confirm this and JP will ask SP about decorating it. To join would cost £10 for 4 days. Lantern making sessions are on 26 November at the Council Offices (10-11.30 and 1.30 to 4, 25 people per session)-and places must be booked. AKG will check about marshalling ( Hosts may do this) and whether the parade will go across the Moor. High vis jackets with FOTM printed on them were suggested – DJ would check on a supplier. DJ offered room on the Moor noticeboard for a poster,

**Litter Picks** – It was agreed that more committee members should be sought and one could have special responsibilities as Community Litter pick Co-ordinator organising litter picks and liaising with community groups. Insurance is needed. The possibility of litter picking on birdwatch weekend was discussed, including a subaqua diver in the pool – but rejected.

**Outdoor games** –AKG confirmed what was purchased and what is to come. These include Connect, Rollaball (x2) Big Jenga, 5 way badminton/tennis/volleyball net, boules and quoits. AKG will update FOTM and pass the information to SG to feed back to CEC.

**New members** – To be discussed in the January meeting eg JM will focus on recruitment at the birdwatch, DJ and JM will put items in the Knutsford Guardian. It will include people for special roles such as community group co-ordinator and safeguarding officer ( DJ and JM will discuss wording). There could be a Saturday open day mid-February on the Moor. JM and DJ would put an article on the Societies page and mention it in the Knutsford Directory (deadline 25 January) and a leaflet for the Makers Market could be drafted.

**Town Council** The KTC has been informed about the grant paid for play equipment. FOTM will enquire about other possible funding sources.KTC Environment Committee P15 discussed this and DJ will forward the invoice, cc SG

### **3 Review**

**Play area** – Equipment is now installed as ordered. DJ has sent a list of 19 points to MH (ANSA), which still need to be completed to our satisfaction and for safety. These include the post-installation safety certificate and maintenance plan, bark surfacing improvement, telephone contact numbers on signage, and an email has been sent to MH(ANSA) asking for on-site completion with FOTM.A complaint was sent to Ralph Stemp, Commissioning Officer at CEC concerning ANSAs ability to inspect, maintain and develop parks/playareas (Ref SR1495916) and in a reply, Matt Smith, ANSA was asked to meet and respond.

**Moor Pool litter clearance-** Thanks to AM and Michele H, the event, combined with the Green Flag raising, went well Thanks (personal and on behalf of FOTM) were sent to Stuart (Cheshire Fire and Rescue), Simon (SAR), First Responders, and Jonathan Farber (photos for Guardian) There were a large number of bicycles, a couple of skateboards (which were given to skateboarders present – AM is in discussions with a group campaigning for a skate park) and one of the bird information boards. AM will ask if another litter pick can take place before the Feb/Mar nesting season and DJ will contact Henry Brooks TEM.

### **4 Park Audit Items**

There has been a leaf collection and rotten Moor Pool fencing posts have been replaced.

Snowberry trimming and tree crown lifting needs to be done, a wooden bin needs a new door, new bins need progressing ( for preference, not plastic)and some grass seeding is necessary in spring.

Next year, drainage problems and a management plan are main issues.

### **5 KTC Environment Committee 14 Nov (Report JP)**

**Tree in memory of Vivien Davies-** AKG reported verbally that the plaque wording is good, and FOTM will be informed by the Environment Committee when planting will take place. PR is checking his photographs for one to be framed and presented to John Davies.(AKG will arrange the printing). **New benches** – DJ will write requesting 2 new benches to be bought by KTC and installed by ANSA. Any other budget requirements will be considered by FOTM members for next year. DJ asked if the Sinking Reserve idea for Open Spaces in Knutsford and the Moor had been raised. It is not in the plans.

**CCTV-** JP reported that KTC(Env) will ask security experts for advice – they were concerned that the expense of CCTV would not help crime prevention or arrests. DJ would send previous crime prevention advice and a police request. It should help offenders be caught and if prosecuted and damages awarded, this would act as a deterrent for others. If damage is done and it is beyond repair, CEC/ANSA say they have no insurance or capital replacement budget in place. DJ will ask if KTC supplied or erected items could be covered

under KTC insurance and if monies required for CCTV operations could be put into a reserve fund to cover future damage.

**Lighting** – after discussion FOTM concluded that it would be useful to have 2 additional light posts on Church walk from the St Cross tunnel to the Scout Hut. The old lighting is unreliable and should be programmed for the LED upgrade and DJ will ask the KTC about this (DJ has a map of lighting positions to help when reporting problems online to Highways. Lighting on PROW should be on a 5 day response rather than 28.

**Lily Bridge** – KTC budget contains money to progress this with CEC, but it may take 9 months and will need external funding (Perhaps as a PROW some will come from there) SG will be able to advise on highways budgets. Accessibility is the major issue. DJ suggested agreeing a design and background statement to help FOTM communicate with interested parties and will circulate committees. DJ will ask JP and KTC who will give permission at CEC if FOTM gets someone else to do the work, Michele H said WREN had been unhelpful by turning a grant application down very quickly after moving deadline forward. DJ was unsure whether Knutsford was still eligible for WREN grants until 2019 but would contact Richard Smith

## **6 Communications**

**Knutsford Promenades** had emailed thanks after the Canute Crossing. One of their sponsors had suggested they could help with the Lily bridge (DJ is to follow this up)

George Osborne MP wrote concerning the **boundary commission changes**, DJ would draft a reply for the Secretary to send, thanking him for the information and saying FOTM was happy to publicise this to members but that it is outside the organisation's remit to send a formal response.

Barton Wilmore wrote concerning a possible meeting with FOTM on outline planning permission for **Crown Estates** in NW Knutsford. DJ would draft a reply for the Secretary to send declining a meeting but covering the points that as a town centre public open space, any financial contribution to the Moor' upkeep would be welcome, public open spaces should be incorporated into any new housing estates ( including equipped play areas and informal spaces), and sustainable travel routes, especially footpaths and cycleways should be provided from NW Knutsford to the Town Centre and Moor. A number of members are involved in the Neighbourhood Plan so could be able to engage more directly via that committee and its Working Groups. There is a NP Environment and Open Spaces Working Group meeting on 14 November (PR or JM and AKG will attend)

KTC invited FOTM to attend **Remembrance Day**. MH will represent FOTM and Scouts

Website – AKG will show this at the January meeting. It will contain Birdwatch and AGM publicity.

Facebook – AM will continue with this

Twitter – AKG, DJ and AM. AKG will review Autofeed to Facebook

Yearbook – AKG for January meeting

Participatory Budget voting show 3 December – invitation via Val B

## **7 Report from Police**

No written report or representative was present. MH, AM,JP and DJ had been on Friday patrols and discussions with the police, but FOTM is waiting for Kelly Rooke to come back from 3 weeks leave for an update on suggested actions. It was agreed the seating in the shelter should not be progressed while antisocial behaviour continues.

### **8 Treasurers report (SG)**

AKG and SG are dealing with the CEC grant towards outdoor games.

KTC - playhouse £1500. DJ to inform KTC and copy invoice for next KTC Finance meeting

DJ will remind SG that FOTM's year end is now December and accounts are needed for the January meeting

### **9 Approval of minutes**

A few minor corrections eg the fire incident has not yet got an incident number. Remove tarmac. Minutes then approved .

### **10 AOB**

**Safeguarding Officer** - circulated information on how to recruit one. FOTM has a policy. DJ is currently nominated, but advertisements need to go out via a new members callout.

Cub Scouts 100 year Celebration in December – invitation from Martin Relton received by DJ in September, She apologised for missing it but offered assistance and copied reply to MH.

Participatory budget application – AKG had submitted a request (cc DJ) £3750 for a sensory garden, £250 for markers for encouraging runners ( linking in to Rotary jog) Presentation day is 3<sup>rd</sup> December.DJ to ask JG to present..

Personal trainers – DJ noted that some trainers were taking liberties by using the shelter and benches ( this topic may come up again when licences for permission to operate on council land may come forward from CEC/ANSA. However, the fitness groups using the Moor should be encouraged to help out at some of the FOTM events.

Posters on KTC events and Charity Christmas Card event at the Curzon could go on the noticeboard.

**11 Next meetings** informal meeting for new members 11 January. Other meetings - 8 Feb and 8 March (AGM). A subgroup to discuss Playday could meet in April, DJ gave apologies for the February meeting