

Collings Park Trust Management Committee Minutes

22nd October 2024

at 12 Fortescue Place, Hartley

Present: Andy Stewart (Chair), Andrew Leigh, Lois Conrad, Geraldine Whitby, Dy Taylor, Tony Bray, Maureen Geens

Apologies for absence from Liz Rawlings, Sam Smith

Lois and Andrew were thanked for hosting the meeting.

1. Minutes of last meeting (23rd July 2024) were accepted.

Matters arising:

Improvements to main pathway: The north end of the main pathway has been diverted away from the hazardous slope at zero cost, so the remaining £865 from Cllr. Dylan Tippitts' community fund grant has been used towards the Beekeeping store.

Plymouth Pear: Luke Pollard has been in contact by email. He is still aiming to help reintroduce the Plymouth Pear to the area and is due to arrange a meeting of interested parties, including the Trust, in the New Year.

Collings Park Playing Field: Stephen Hill of PCC and the Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest team has led a group of young persons from 'Forest Rising' to create a tree planting design for Collings Park playing field. A consultation was held on 5th October and members of the Trust have given feedback on the group's proposals. Work is expected to start before the end of the year.

Local PCSO: Identified as PCSO Kyle Stimpson. His sergeant is Sgt. Justin Gool. A message has been sent inviting PCSO Stimpson for a familiarisation visit to the garden, but he is yet to respond. Further contact to be attempted, making reference to Lois' case number relating to vandalism.

2. Health & Safety

First Accident Book entry relates to wasp stings following a nest being disturbed whilst strimming. Long trousers and long sleeved top should be worn.

Three items raised via a site hazard inspection: Traffic warning sign obscured by undergrowth; wall at rear of property on east side of Fortescue Place to be re-measured to see if it is leaning further, and remedial action to be considered if it is; permanent barrier in front of the pond to be reinstated.

3. Finance, Membership & Funding

There is **£6,098** in the account at present. The easy access savings account has not yet been set up as paperwork didn't have the necessary signatures.

Membership has improved with 8 household memberships, 4 individual members and 11 supporters, bringing £616 to the accounts annually.

4. Policies, Procedures & Key Documents

All in date and uploaded to the Collings Park Trust website. An 'Event guidance for community groups' document is still to be drafted.

5. Progress and Planning for the Community Garden

A second store is due to be delivered on 30th October, this to be used for Beekeeping equipment. A Hibernaculum has been created adjacent to the pond. 'Plants Direct' have promised to supply a replacement hornbeam sapling. More woodchip is being sourced for topping up paths.

6. Future Events Planning

It was agreed to organise another Bonfire Night event on Sunday 3rd November. Another 'Carols in the Garden' event is also under consideration.

7. External Events

An Open Garden event in aid of St. Luke's Hospice is being planned for 30th/31st August 2025 involving eight local gardens, including our community garden and Liz's garden. We will need volunteers on both days to act as hosts in the community garden.

8. Feedback from Board of Trustees

Andrew L reported that the Annual Report is being drafted ready for the next Trustee meeting on Tuesday 5th November and the AGM, to be held on Tuesday 26th November at Lexden (Liz's house).

9. AOB

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10. Date and venue of next meeting: Tuesday 21st January 2025, 19:00 hrs, to be held at Liz's home, Lexden, Hartley Avenue.