



Friends of Murray Park

Notes of Meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7pm at Murrayside Community Centre

Present:

Officers: Tracy Rowe (Chair) Sue Bird (Secretary)
Lesley Fayers (Treasurer) Joanne Mansie (Vice Chair)

Members: Dennis Carpenter

Also Present: Cllr Roxanne Downes

Apologies: Paul Gilbert

1 Excluded Persons

Action

There were no excluded persons.

2 Nick Wilcox

In the absence of NW, Cllr RD offered to pass on any action points.

3 Minutes

4 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

5 Matters Arising

(i) Goalposts and Goal Mouths

The old goalposts had been taken away but the new ones are not yet installed. LF said that it would be preferable if they were moved closer to King Edward Road, where there was a double row of old trees as well as the new ones, rather than towards Murray Road, where there was only one row of old trees.

IBC

We had heard from NW that, when they are installed, they will reinstate the old goalmouths and drop off a pile of soil in the corner for the Friends to use to fill in any dog holes.

(ii) **Notice Boards**

SB

The notice boards needed to be updated, as many of the notices inside had water damage. SB said she would do this.

(iii) **MUGA Net**

The net had been temporarily tied up by a park user.

(iv) **Dog Waste bags/dispensers**

One of the dispensers had been vandalised again, and had been glued together by a park user. TR filled it up again the next day. In light of the fourth notice board still being missing, it was decided that the fourth dispenser would be kept as a spare, should any need to be replaced.

It had been noticed that there was a lot more dog waste being left on the park recently, and that the dispensers were often empty because some people were taking loads of bags. The boxes were having to be filled every other day on average.

6 Anti-Social Behaviour

- (i) A woman had told some girls off for worrying her dog and they then attacked her
- (ii) A young mother who had been carrying a baby reported that her dog had been attacked by two other dogs (an Alsatian and a smaller dog, possibly as Staffy), both of which were off lead. Her dog was very traumatised and had to be sedated at vet's and have internal wounds stitched.

Members noted that both these incidents occurred during the Easter Holidays.

7 Finances

There had been no movement on the bank account since the last meeting.

The QR code has been received and it was agreed that it should be put on the Groups FaceBook page, with the explanatory note that it could be used if anyone wanted to make a small donation to Friends of Murray Park, to help towards costs. Officers LF and TR had both donated £1 to ensure it was working correctly and are hopeful that park users may wish to make donations.

8 Any Other Business

(i) Time Spent on Park Related Business

The Chair wanted members to record the amount of time they spent on park business, in order to collate it to support applications for funding.

All

(ii) Use of Tennis Court

The Chair had received an email from two tennis coaches who wanted to use the tennis court to give free tennis lessons. To use the new courts in this way, they would have to be registered with the Council. TR to forward the email to NW at IBC.

It was considered that our new tennis court was under-used and so it was suggested that we might write to local tennis clubs to advertise that our court was available for use. The same could be done with table tennis clubs.

(iii) Bill Quinton

LF thought it would be a good idea to obtain a plaque to mark Bill Quinton's tree, especially as he had been a long-serving member of the Friends, and enormous help to us in the past. We need to discuss this with NW at the next meeting.

(iv) Murrayside

Members wondered what was the latest with the table tennis balls and bats that were deposited with Murrayside Community Centre for park users who wished to use them. SB said she would talk to Martin Cherrington, as she wanted to go and see him anyway regarding meeting room booking.

SB

(v) Windrush Celebration on Landseer Park

We had been invited to have a stall on the Windrush event on Landseer Park, but many of us were unavailable to run it, so TR will contact Max and decline the offer.

TR

(vi) Use of Wildflower Areas

Schoolchildren from Rosehill Primary had visited the park to look at the wild flowers.

(vii) **Fun Day**

As no Family Fun Day had been arranged, members thought it might be a good idea to arrange something small scale on the day of opening the newly refurbished play area, once we know when that will be.

(viii) **Mouse Barley**

There was a large amount of this type of grass in the alley to the south of the park and members asked that, if possible, could this be strimmed, as it was dangerous to dogs.

(ix) **Hole Digging**

There were more holes appearing on the park, presumably dug by dogs, and IBC were going to drop some soil off. In a previous discussion

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on 30th July. Upon checking diaries, 17 September & 19 November were suggested dates for later in the year. SB would be sending out a Calendar of Meetings with the minutes.

SB