

**Trustees Meeting Minutes**

Zoom Meeting

**28 June 2022****Trustees Present:**

Dave Morris (Chair, NFPGS)	London Friends of Green Spaces Network (LFGN)
Shelly Quinton-Hulme (Development, NFPGS)	Friends of Trafford's Parks and Green Spaces
Sarah Royal (CEO, NFPGS)	Birmingham Open Spaces Forum (BOSF)
Michelle Furtado (Network Coordinator, NFPGS)	Green Tides (Adur & Worthing Green Space P/ship)
Marion Williams (ref. MW2: NFPGS)	Friends of Leazes Park (Newcastle Parks Forum)
Nigel Sharp (Secretary, NFPGS)	NW Parks Friends Forum

**Apologies**

Martin Willis (ref MW: Treasurer, NFPGS)	Nottingham Open Spaces Forum (NOSF)
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<b>Minutes of previous meeting (30.5.22) and Matters Arising</b>	
Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Matters arising covered by agenda items.	
<b>Administrative issues and roles</b>	
Noted that SQH has established a google drive shared folder: <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kxN4clcpfw2gQ5etAQQuTb3CgJyt7BR7">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kxN4clcpfw2gQ5etAQQuTb3CgJyt7BR7</a>  Also need to review and clarify officer roles and requirements ahead of the AGM.	<b>all</b>
<b>Finances</b>	
MW has advised that he will review NFPGS status re. tax and gift aid eligibility. SQ-H has experience on such matters and can advise as necessary.  <u>National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) submission</u> DM advised that following a meeting with NLHF in March there has been lengthy partnership development work to support diversity and inclusion outcomes, and the bid will now be supported with additional input from the theory of change process, in addition to recent research support (see later). Match funding remains a concern with potential financial support from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation almost certainly conditional on secured funds.	<b>MW/ SQ-H</b>          <b>DM</b>
<b>Parks Community UK (PCUK)</b>	
NFPGS took over the site April 2021, including cover for Gill Moore's role, however there are insufficient funds to sustain this level of support. Gill continues to manage the Twitter account, DM and PE remain involved with admin and strategic matters. MF offered to provide basic website support.  Additional information to add to the site could include case studies, good practice guides.	<b>DM/MF</b>

<b>NFPGS Initiatives</b>	
<p>DM updated on links with University College, London to promote the opportunity to provide research support, specifically to help provide information on diversity issues within the voluntary park community sector. A student is now assisting, extracting data from the 'Better Friends' programme and following up with approx. 120 groups who had highlighted this issue to seek more detailed comment through questionnaires and interviews.</p> <p>DM has also circulated a message through the Forum to research Friends / Park community Group longevity around the UK (eg there are many groups older than 25 years).</p> <p>The Better Friends audit tool needs additional funds to sustain this link and DM has written to Fields in Trust and Keep Britain Tidy to seek their active use/promotion of the tool and potential support for on-going costs.</p> <p>There is a Future Park Accelerator conference in the autumn:  <a href="https://www.futureparks.org.uk/news/post-one-gbcnb-r6mkb-8tet3-xayfn-pwg6d-x82bj">https://www.futureparks.org.uk/news/post-one-gbcnb-r6mkb-8tet3-xayfn-pwg6d-x82bj</a></p> <p>DM suggested that a questionnaire to explore the relationship between area forums and local authorities could be useful and it was agreed this could be informative of current issues ahead of the AGM.</p> <p>SQ-H summarised 2 NFPGS Trustee workshops (6.4.22 &amp; 19.6.22) to undertake a theory of change review, the final draft will provide clarity to inform future funding bids.</p>	<b>DM</b>
<b>National issues</b>	
<p>DM has been invited to address the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Select Committee in Westminster (20/7) and has circulated a paper he's submitted including an update on activity over the past 5 years and current progress and initiatives such as Better Friends. The Parliamentary 'Parks Action Group' has not met since 2019.</p> <p>The Parks Alliance has become part of the Landscape Institute (LI) and the 'Parks and Green Space Network is 'working with the LI to create a professional home for parks and green space managers.' <a href="https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/policy/parks-green-space/">https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/policy/parks-green-space/</a> with a LI focus.</p> <p>The Parks Management Association <a href="https://www.parksmanagement.org.uk">https://www.parksmanagement.org.uk</a> run democratically by and for parks managers is also active 'Representing those individuals and organisations working in the public parks and open spaces sector, whether in the public, private or third sector.'</p> <p>The 'Nature for Everyone' campaign is being led by Wildlife and Countryside Link, a call for increased resources linked to a campaign for the right to access. Backed by 80 organisations. Details at: <a href="https://www.wcl.org.uk/nature-for-everyone.asp">https://www.wcl.org.uk/nature-for-everyone.asp</a></p>	<b>DM</b>
<b>AGM</b>	
<p>Following confirmation from the Charity Commission on procedure, it was agreed to defer the AGM until early Autumn. The agenda will comprise officer updates and reports on key themes. It was also suggested an item could include sources of support – i.e. organisations</p>	<b>All note</b>

<p>and links.</p> <p>Discussion followed re. meeting format. Although zoom has enabled wider attendance, the networking benefits of a face to face session were noted.</p> <p>It was agreed to consider hybrid meeting venue options – e.g. Quaker Meeting House, Birmingham – for a Saturday daytime event (1<sup>st</sup> October). SR to explore options.</p>	<p><b>SR</b></p>
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	
<p>DM awaiting feedback from World Urban Parks on suggested NFPGS workshop on Community Empowerment in Green Spaces' at their Global Congress .</p>	
<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23 August</li> <li>• 1 October (AGM)</li> </ul> <p>All by <u>zoom</u>, link to be circulated prior to the meetings.</p>	