

Trustees Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting

**Tuesday 10 March 2026****Present:**

Dave Morris (Chair)	London Friends of Green Spaces Network (LFGN) + Haringey Friends of Parks Forum
Nicola Dempsey	Sheffield Green Spaces Forum
Michelle Furtado	Network Coordinator
Sarah Royal	Trustee
Wendy Blythe	Federation of Cambridge Residents Associations (FeCRA) & Cambridge Green Space Groups
Shelly Quinton-Hulme (Treasurer)	Friends of Trafford's Parks and Green Spaces
Nikki Iyayi	NFPGS administrator
Nigel Sharp (Secretary)	NW Parks Friends Forum

Apologies:

Paul Ely	Parks Community UK
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Minutes of Previous Meeting (24.1.26) and Matters Arising	
Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.	
Following the AGM approved changes the revised CIO constitution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM to share word doc with NS for revising, NS to forward to SQ-H & MF. - SQ-H to submit revised doc. the Charity Commission - MF to upload doc. to NFPGS website. 	DM/NS/ SQ-H/ MF
DM/NI to continue to add contacts from survey to be NFPGS mailing list.	DM/NI
Parks Working Group (PWG)	
PWG task and finish groups are ongoing. Update meeting re. Government Funding and Policy priorities. DM continues to lobby re. increased funding for parks.	
ND/DM provided an update on the MHCLG survey project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'Friends in Green Places' report is complete - 2nd draft now shared with MHCLG, awaiting response from 'policy analysts'. - Following this feedback report will be finalized for MHCLG approval and a launch. - DM shared draft with Trustees in confidence. - Aim to share executive summary details/ recommendations with NFPGS members at meeting 14.3.26. - Discussion with APSE re. inclusion in parks seminar but now intend this could be the focus for a 'stand alone' event. 	DM/ND

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SQ-H is awaiting a PO no. from University of Sheffield to progress funding claim and transfer to cover DM input. In the interim DM has been reimbursed from NFPGS funds. 	SQ-H
NFPGS Working Groups	
<p>Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group to meet to review the MHCLG work and consider further opportunities. <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SQ-H/NS met again 9 March. - the MHCLG report will both help inform NFPGS priorities and provide significant evidence to support future bids. - Need to also review A4A NFPGS Admin/Coordination project progress and any related needs, etc. [See below] - Initial thoughts are that any bid would need to compliment the existing funded role – i.e. avoid duplication of duties already funded by A4A, but there could be scope for a development officer role. - HR/ staff management could be a capacity issue – suggestion that potential partnership for delivery or input from a suitable organization to cover these needs with an agreement and fees. - DM added NI will be looking at future funding options. <p>Campaigning</p> <p>Link with Community Planning Alliance https://communityplanningalliance.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18 April, Day of Local Action for Nature, Parks & Green Spaces - Opportunities for UK groups and Forums to organise activity and register online - Details at: https://communityplanningalliance.org/events-calendar/ - DM had shared details and NFPGS's support agreed by email. - This will be a timely event in the build up to local elections on May 7th <p>NFPGS has also supported the campaigning re. threat of loss of statutory consultee status in planning applications - for organisations inc. The Garden Trust. 30 members of the House of Lords are opposing too.</p>	
NFPGS Admin/Coordination - Awards for All Project	
<p>NI provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with various Trustees to discuss activity and issues for support. - Developed action plan with monthly targets with DM - Reviewing PCUK website and discussing changes, new content, etc - Scope to include information from MHCLG report and related material (case studies, etc). - Developed newsletter strategy with MF – aim for monthly updates - Recent edition showed 34% open rate, 50+ checking on links. - 119 unsubscribed out of over 2,000 contacts – not considered an issue – also may still be additional contacts to add from the survey returns, etc. 	
Partnership working/ networking/ events/ enquiries	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential future event with APSE to promote 'Friends in Green Places'. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM did general presentation to Landscape East network - DM attended the 1st meet of new St Albans Forum after emailing over the past few months. Very impressive turnout and discussion . - Support for group in Basildon. - NS added new contact from Darlington Forum - Also noted the need to follow up matters arising from the MHCLG survey – e.g. groups/ areas without an area forum, ensure and new area groups included or with follow up, etc. - ND noted scope for mapping work to identify clusters, needs, etc. - WB referred to Public Map Project – details at: https://publicmap.org 	<p style="text-align: center;">DM/NS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ND</p>
<p>Next General Meeting (14.3.26)</p>	
<p>NS shared a draft agenda – agreed with addition of short break before the survey report/ discussion items. Key items to comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NFPGS updates - Area Forum updates - Day of Action 18.4.26 - Friends in Green Places report 	
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>	
<p>Saturday 14 March 2026: 10am-12pm General, & 12pm-1pm Trustees zoom meeting</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9213929960?pwd=Y1QyYi9iK2ZjY2VrdFk3RVh2Qm5Sdz09 Meeting ID: 921 392 9960 Password: FOVPS</p>	