

FRIENDS OF KILBURN LIBRARY GARDEN PROJECT

Minutes of Meeting held on 05/04/2008

In attendance: Cllr. Simon Green, Jay Venn, Nick Adams, Carol French, Avril Mackintosh, Anne Hetherington, Linda George, Wendy Litchfield (minutes)

Linda welcomed everyone to the meeting. Two new members attended:
Cllr. Simon Green, recently appointed councillor for Queens Park Ward and
Anne Hetherington, Children's Librarian for Brent Libraries (South)

Minutes of last meeting

Linda is still working on funding through Groundwork. We just missed the date for the B&Q submission but can still apply for a grant for tools, about £500.

Debra is working on the constitution, was not at the meeting so details could not be updated. Sara was not present for the latest information on leaflets and publicity.

Jay is re-writing the time scale of the garden plan and Avril is to update about the Website.

To clarify 'Asking for donations legally' on the minutes means that we ask for donations instead of charging people who attend the Open Day.

Concerning the fund-raising for the project, Carol said she will bring in a cake and suggested the others also bake a cake for the stall. She can provide plants for the stall. Carol will check H&S policy.

On Queens Park Day where Kilburn Library has a stall, Friends of the Library Project can join the Library stall.

Feedback

Simon said that we have been given £4,400 funding but this has to be agreed by the Regeneration Department. As long as the grant is costed properly, there should not be a problem in obtaining it.

However, the Project needs a bank account first and Debby is dealing with this.

Simon will find out from Phil Newby, the Director of Regeneration how long we will have to wait for the money.

It was suggested that tools should be funded and that when we receive the money, we should compensate people who have already supplied tools.

Jay has been investigating the cost of sheds and suggested we have two metal lockable tool stores which would cost under £200 each. Jay will get more quotes for sheds and Carol will get costings for tools and gloves (Asda was recommended).

Concerning the green rubbish, the Recycling Section will take the rubbish away but it needs to be put in white bags.

Simon said he would contact Phil Newby concerning the proposed website. Avril has some photos, which have been taken for this. It is hoped that photos are printed in the Brent Magazine showing the Project site before and after it is finished.

Linda will print some of the photos for the Open Day (before/after).

There is the root of an ash tree in the garden and needs to be removed before more digging work in the garden.

Avril said we need burly people to dig the site. Simon said he would contact Mick Pilkington about supplying people from the Probation Service.

Open Day

May 10th or 17th were the dates proposed for the Open Day. Previously, Judith said she would obtain the dates of Salusbury School's events to avoid a possible clash. As she was not at the meeting, it was suggested that someone telephones the school to check this.

May 17th from 12p.m. to 4 p.m. in the afternoon was finally agreed for the date of the Open Day.

Even though the Project is not finished, people can stand in the area and consultation is needed before the final plans are made.

Nick will do the publicity for the Open Day and Avril is to give him the photos.

If it is raining on the day, the stalls can be inside. Linda will buy some plastic table covers for the plant stalls.

Anne was consulted regarding how the project will affect the children. She pointed out that as the entrance to the garden is through the Children's library, there is the safety issue of having adults in the children's area. Also, as the door to the garden is not an exit door, it is not always kept clear. An exit from the main library to the garden would be preferable. At certain times, e.g. during a children's event, Thursday mornings especially, it would be impossible to get access to the garden. It was therefore suggested the garden would only be open at specific times.

Carol also mentioned that perhaps, in the future if funds become available, it might be possible to have a door from the end of the adult library leading onto the garden.

Although the aim of the garden is that it should be a quiet reading area, Anne pointed out that there would always be people who allow their children to run about.

Anne said that the front paved area is sufficient for her children's activities.

The paved area may be altered slightly (where the bark is now) and the fence may come down but a trellis (see-through) may be more appropriate as divider. The ramp has to remain but could be made prettier.

The garden could be a link for children's activities e.g. nature sessions, once the safety issues have been resolved.

On May 17th, the Open Day, Anne will arrange a collage session with the children. A collage that remains in the Library and shows what the garden could look like was suggested.

Nick will do the publicity for the Open Day and Linda said that we need the leaflets before the 17th May so that everyone can take a batch for dispatch. The publicity needs the date of the Open Day and pictures and should be A4 size, which could be copied onto A5 size.

A.O.B.

Jay has an ancient spade, which can be donated for the project.

She has not had a chance to speak to the people at Queens Park (Corporation of London) but Simon knows members of the Committee and will contact them.

Wendy raised the issue about selling homemade cakes. This can be cleared with the Health and Safety website. It was thought that it was all right if you are not selling them, you could ask for a donation if it was for a one-off event.

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Saturday 19 April at 12 p.m.