

Minutes of the Friends of Kilburn Library Garden

Date: 18 October 2008

Present: Jay Venn, Deborah Allen, Carol French, Denise Delalande, Sunshine Flint, Avril Macintosh, Sheila Trezise, Jerome Veriter, Ziggy Brennan, Carol St John, Linda George, Wendy Litchfield(minutes)

Matters Arising/Feedbacks

Bank Account - Deborah is checking the Bank Account to confirm the amount now held. We are still awaiting the debit card from the bank and Deborah will follow this up. Avril said there is still money outstanding for setting up the website

Tree Surgery – Richard Gentry from Queens Park has expressed an interest in helping the project and visited the Library at 1.00pm. He may be able to help with the removal of rubbish (in bags) already dug from the garden. Also he might lend tools and equipment for removing trees.

Health & Safety Issues – People who have not already worked in the garden should be aware of Health & Safety Issues. Also people digging in the garden should bring clean shoes to change into so that mud is not brought through into the Library.

Digging Days – These are still going on and we are still finding buried rubbish. Digging takes place on any Saturday and, at present, Thursdays from about 4.30pm to 6.00pm.

Benches – There are benches available.

Garden Tap – This was put in the wrong place. Jay will investigate.

Shed – We were hoping to pay for this direct from the bank account but we need a credit card to buy on-line. Deborah said she may buy the shed and afterwards be reimbursed.

Kilburn Festival – This raised £124 but this has now been spent.

Groundwork – There was a meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September. They are required to use their own people as part of a training programme but they will put things into our design. However, it has been discovered that we cannot apply for the upper level of funding because the Library is only open for 5 days a week and not 6 days. Instead we can submit two separate bids for funding, i.e. Growing Food and Awards for All. It was discussed and thought that the project for Growing Food would be too high maintenance. We should however go for Awards for All. Denise said she would be able to help with the application because she has applied for this previously. If we do decide to apply for a grant from Awards for All, the money has to be spent by March 2009.

Even if we get a reduced amount from Groundwork, what we really need is the digging completed so that we can start planting. (People will start to get dispirited because at the moment, people are only required for digging).

Raised Beds - Avril said that the cost for raised beds is cheaper than she thought. She will order two from Harrold Horticultural so that at least we can start planting something.

Funding - There has been no response from B&Q or Homebase concerning assistance. Sheila said that she is willing to contact organisations for funding. We should also pursue other forms of funding. At the last meeting, Ed mentioned that Choir could be used to raise funds. This could be pursued.

Garden Theme – The main theme is a Reading Garden. Because of space, themes are restricted although individual beds could be allocated a theme.

The espalier trees have now been planted.

Compost will be required at a later date.

Compost bins will be required. Jay has found wire ones at £20 each and 3 will be needed which could be lined with old carpet etc. Although the Council provide subsidised compost bins, they are plastic and not that good so Jay will make our own.

Queens Park Day – At the Kilburn Library Stall, flyers were handed out giving information about the Library Garden.

### Health & Safety Training

Carol said that we should encourage people, who are not gardeners and who have not worked previously in the garden, to attend training sessions. (90% of the training is common sense). Linda is to prepare a list showing people who have already been trained. This is important for legislative purposes although the disclaimer should cover us. This is not for us but for the Council. Linda has a list of people who have completed a disclaimer.

Also we should let the library staff know if people are working in the garden (visitors' book).

The use/spraying of pesticide/insecticide should be restricted to designated people only, if we use it.

As mentioned previously, people should bring spare shoes to change into after working in the garden.

Carol said that when the project is running properly, more Health & Safety items could be stored in the shed e.g. boots, goggles, gloves etc. At the moment Kilburn Library keeps a First-aid box but eventually the project will have its own First-aid kit. The names of first-aiders, telephone number of hospital etc should be available.

It was pointed out that, when required, Asda/Woolworths sell cheap secateurs.

After the meeting Carol organised a training session for several people.

P.S. Gardening Training will be up and running in the Spring for everybody who wants it.

### A.O.B

Avril said that people should be checking their e-mails. Also the project logo should be put on the e-mails. As she sends out reminders, she needs correct e-mail addresses. Also everyone should log-on to the website each week to move the entry higher up the list.

The correct address is [www.kilburnlibrarygarden.co.uk](http://www.kilburnlibrarygarden.co.uk) and it was suggested that this should be shown on the top of the minutes.

Next meeting is Saturday 15 November at 11.30 a.m.