

## **Friends of Broomfield Park - Volunteer Rep Network Summary of meeting on 29/6/26**

### *Overview*

Our regular Volunteer Representatives' Meeting on 29 June discussed the latest update on activity, risk assessments, calculating volunteer hours and looked at how the Volunteer Rep meetings are working, including discussing current problems.

It has once again been an incredibly busy period for the Friends groups. A comprehensive Volunteer Update was distributed to all group leaders. After discussion, a revised and extended version will be prepared and circulated to all volunteers. It will also be available on the FoBP website.

### *Summary of main points discussed:*

- Enfield Council has appointed a new Fire Officer who will be assessing buildings for fire risk; would be sensible to review inappropriate storage in the Clubhouse prior to any inspection; DD will alert the Palmers Greenery [done].
- All groups need to review and update (if necessary) their risk assessments so that we can send these to Enfield Council; this is a requirement of both the Council and our Insurance policy which relies on risk assessment and mitigation from group leaders. DD will remind all group leaders about this.
- It would be helpful if group leaders could guesstimate total volunteer hours for the year for use in our annual report, funding applications etc. The period to be covered is from AGM to AGM; this year will be our first report as a charity.
- Review of group:
  - it had been a useful forum
  - hard to get volunteers to attend in the summer especially
  - agreed that three meetings a year in autumn, winter and spring would suffice
  - concerns raised needed to be followed up on more effectively; there is a schedule of challenges and agreed that we should review this as a standing agenda item on the agenda for these meetings so that we can show progress or maintain focus, as appropriate.
- The Horticulture group were under the impression that all tools had to be individually fetched and returned to the tool store; agreed that there was no reason that all tools likely to be needed could not be placed in a trolley and kept for the duration of the session provided they are not left unobserved for

any period.

- 
- It would be good to encourage more collegiality as between groups; there used to be a Friends wide social event which could be reinstated. This needs to go to trustees for formal discussion but those present felt if there was enthusiasm then this should definitely be taken forward. This will be added to the next Trustee meeting agenda.
- There are still no Enfield Council notices explaining to the public that dogs must be on the lead within the walled garden area; it is hard for volunteers to tell the public this given the aggressive attitude of some dog owners. While we want notices to be as positive as possible in line with policy, the risks to the birdlife are significant and it is frustrating that we are still awaiting formal action. The likelihood is that this will be picked up as part of the Broomfield House project over the longer term. Agreed that not appropriate for FoBP to produce their own notices.  
Lisa from Enfield Council is meant to be actioning this – could we ask her for an update on this? [A meeting is scheduled with her for later in July so this can be raised with her at that stage if no further action is obvious by then].
- First Aid – new bags are now made up and available – agreed that:
  - the Conservatory will take one bag to replace their kit which is almost certainly out of date
  - Horticulture and the Apiary will use a bag from the Clubhouse
  - The Lakes and Wildlife group have their own kit but will also use the rescue ball available in the Clubhouse
  - Each kit needs to include an accident book.
  - DW to be asked to produce more laminated First Aid sheets

Next meeting date tbc