



Minutes of the Friends of St Ann's Well Gardens (FOSAWG) AGM held on 1 September 2022 5.30-7pm

Present:-

FOSAWG Committee Members:

Pippa Smith (Chair)
Linda Austin (Secretary)
Cliff Robinson (Acting Treasurer)
Juliette Bidwell
Melanie Davis
Alison Dean
Natalie Hall
Kate Kirkham

FOSAWG general members:

Carol Beard, Janet Clough, Juliette Hunting, Penny Howe, Jackie Gonzalez, Sandra Gray, Carole Jordan, Don Lavoie, Jacqui Maschera, Annie Mitchell, Penny Murphy, Christine Payne, Sandra Tolley, Jill Williams

Non-Members : Justina Dean

Apologies: Lucy Bundy, Lesley Anne DiMarco, Judith Bogaardt & Iain Turner

1. Welcome

Pippa welcomed everyone to the meeting.
The meeting was approved as quorate

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Minutes of the AGM held on 14 March 2021 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Guest Speaker – Liz Davies

Pippa introduced Liz Davies, BHCC CityParks Parks Projects Team Officer, as guest speaker. Liz described her background in a voluntary organization, the Martlets, and her previous fundraising experience. She went on to outline her current role in the Parks Project Team, which supports the strategic development of Brighton & Hove's public parks. She outlined the CityParks strategic priorities, and the budgetary constraints being faced. She then went on to describe her involvement in projects in St Ann's Well Gardens, including the Sensory Garden new pathway, performance surface, pergola and planting; new cycle parking, and the playground refurbishment.

In 2022, a major consultation exercise would take place to involve the Friends and park users in the development of a 2022-2032 Park Development Plan for St Ann's Well Gardens. (Secretary's note:- Liz Davies' presentation slides are available)

5. Annual Report & Finances

Pippa introduced the Annual Report for 2021, which had been a challenging year with anti-social behaviour continuing. However, a number of the Friends' initiatives had resulted in a significant reduction, and especially the zero-tolerance to graffiti.

Introducing the accounts, Cliff reported that 2021 had been a quiet year, with only £10000 in income, and £6000 in expenditure. However the 2022 income would be in excess of £25,000 so would require independent examination. Cliff proposed that Chris Tyler be appointed as Independent Examiner and this was AGREED. The Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 were AGREED.

6. Election of Officers & Committee

Pippa Smith was elected Chair.

Cliff Robinson was elected Treasurer.

Linda Austin was elected Secretary.

Juliette Bidwell, Lucy Bundy, Natalie Hall, Kate Kirkham, and Melanie Davis were elected as Trustees to the Committee.

7. Discussion of Priorities

There was a wide-ranging discussion of activities for the next year including ideas for members nights, and also wildlife events including a possible wildlife-pond work day;

Pippa and Natalie also talked about the plans for the Christmas Market which would be on 11th December.

The future plans for the Sensory garden were also discussed, including the difficulties in finding A designer for a kinetic sculpture.

8. Working Groups

Pippa asked for volunteers for the working groups and the Book Box. Penny Howe volunteered to help with the book box.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business. The meeting closed at 7.00 pm