



FOCG Committee Meeting Minutes 11th October 2022

Members present: Reece Dougall (Committee Member) , Sophie Pope (Co-Secretary), Adam Playfair (Treasurer), Jack Maguire (Chairperson), Kelly Longrigg (Vice Chair), Katerina Svetlikova (Committee Member), Nick Coram (Committee Member), Sam Cutler (Committee Member)

1. Apologies

Zoe Keeping (co-secretary)

2. Minutes of the last meeting

- Minutes agreed as true record
- Matters arising:
 - (a) Bins - JM wrote to Stuart Best and has had no response, but has been monitoring the situation with Ralph since and believes it to have improved. Committee agreed that Ralph has been making great efforts and to encourage him to continue, JM will check in with him. RD confirmed bins are still being emptied 3 times a week. Committee agreed to reassess the situation in a couple of months' time.
 - (b) Growzone update - RD advised that one council member had incorrectly presumed decisions had been made in an informal setting. JM raised concerns about an email he received from Wilbert, RD clarified this had been sent to all present in the park that day to provide clarity following the initial conversation on fencing. No formal decisions have been made on fencing or any other matters relating to the Growzone. JM stated further discussion needs to be had before assuming any responsibility for the space. RD stated that the current situation has caused a lot of negativity surrounding the growth space and Aspire's current sessions there. Issues surrounding sign up/vetting process for other sessions under Aspire raised. Discussions surrounding the chaos in the growzone,

questions raised on why we are being asked to be involved. Agreed that we shouldn't be getting involved until after Aspire is over. Grounded Community are back in the park now twice a week over the winter, growzone to be revisited.

3. Treasurer's report

AP has spoken to Natwest re the business account who have closed our application due to inactivity incorrectly, this has been escalated and Natwest have all required documents.

Committee agreed to continue with opening the Natwest account but if there are further delays, to seek somewhere else to open the account. AP commented not many banks offer this kind of account anymore so hope is to remain with Natwest.

KL raised concern over ZK's funding grant if opening the bank account is delayed, AP will continue chasing Natwest.

AP confirmed that balance in the temporary account is currently £537.17 (including £100 donation from Boscombe Rotary Club).

KL praised for fundraising efforts.

4. Welcome new committee members and review of roles and responsibilities

RD announced he is leaving the area at the beginning of December and will be resigning his post as committee member, so there will be a vacancy. Suggestion for Sammy Davies (new Joy manager) to take Reece's committee position. Discussions on erecting a statue in Reece's honour in the growzone ongoing.

Welcome given to Katerina and Nick. NC asked about structure of facebook pages, which KL clarified. NC queried how documents are stored e.g letters to the council - committee raised allowing JM access to FOCG account to send emails from FOCG email address so we keep a record of correspondence. ZK to liaise with JM and action.

Roles and responsibilities: KM taking point on breakfast club, ZK taking point on petition for old Joy building.

JM updated on old building - no local authority funds to demolish building at present. Planning is still the main issue. ZK has had an informal discussion with AUB about use of the building as shared space for a pocket planters project (making planters and benches for the local community out of reclaimed scaffolding boards). Discussions ongoing. ZK to continue liaising with AUB on this.

KS shared concerns on purpose of AUB's project, NC echoed that we should do our due diligence. RD and KL clarified what was being done. NC raised the issue of mess, committee agreed to discuss this when firm plans have been made.

NC raised, following discussion over growzone, that our priority is Churchill Gardens and that we should be looking after the park and what happens in it, the growzone being part of that. RD clarified that plans to get involved with representation on the growzone have not been followed through by the council. RD raised that growzone is not suited to the area and perhaps shouldn't even be in the park.

5. Key priorities for FOCG over next 6 months and who is able to take a lead on moving each priority forward

KL raised that there are plans for breakfast club over October half term which will be headed up by KL and ZK.

Committee discussed distancing from Aspire going forwards.

Project ideas:-

- Raised idea of getting permission from Parks and facilitating for KS to be able to paint/chalk on the tarmac as a community activity.
- KL raised the need to focus on community and projects that impact the residents. Focus needs to be on fundraising for this.
- Raised idea of redecorating old Joy building.
- Running group/similar exercise group
- ZK and RD had idea for soup kettle cooking class to teach people in the local area to cook cheap energy efficient meals.
- Ensuring £120k funding for playground doesn't get lost.

6. Plans for December General Meeting/Bring and Share meal.

Agreed that this meeting should take the form of a less formal meeting but with public invited with an update from FOCG committee followed by food and general chat about local people's priorities and a chance to share opinions.

7. AOB

RD updated the group on a meeting he attend with ZK to look at tackling street drinking in Churchill Gardens. This meeting was set up by ZK in her role with C3 Collaborating for Health in conjunction with PCSO Kate Ementon. Attended by BH1 Project, We Are With You and BCP Council Community Development Officer. Another other meeting is in the pipeline with a much wider attendance anticipated. There appears to be a real commitment within the voluntary and statutory sector to work together to help respond to the needs of our street drinking community

in a compassionate and realistic way in order to reduce levels of perceived antisocial behaviour and pressure on police and health services.

8. Date of next meeting

Committee Meeting:

Tuesday 8 November 2022 6pm-7:30pm, Churchill Gardens Hub

General Meeting of Members (bring and share meal):

Tuesday 6 December 6pm-7:30pm, Churchill Gardens Hub