



**The Friends of Churchill Gardens
Committee Meeting | Tuesday 31st January 2023 | 6-7:30pm
Churchill Gardens Hub**

1. Present: Jack Maguire, Kelly Longrigg, Adam Playfair, Sophie Pope, Zoe Keeping, Sam Cutler, Nick Coram
Apologies - Katerina Svetlikova

2. Minutes of the last meeting - Agreed.

3. Matters arising -

ZK raised the need to clarify what the committee's investment in Churchill Gardens is - advising what they bring to the community and why they are on committee.

ACTION: ZK will follow up with an email to committee members requesting a mini bio and headshot for the FOCG website.

Issue of governance raised. NC raised the issue of conflicts/representation.

ACTION: each committee member to email an outline of why they are involved and what their interests are. Agreed for a 'governance' section to be included on the agenda going forwards. Need to monitor more closely who is voting at meetings.

ZK raised concern that minutes state "members voted to support Coastline Vineyard Church's bid to continue using the Joy Cafe building" at the December meeting when there is no record of who was present at the meeting or who was eligible to vote (bearing in mind that the December meeting was intended to be a social event open to non-members). ZK highlighted the need for transparency in the process with the tender and raised concerns that FOCG may now not be able to influence the tender process if the committee has voted to support Coastline Vineyard Church. JM clarified that the vote to support a bid by Coastline Vineyard Church for the cafe tender was proposed by him but reminded the committee that the support is not exclusive and was designed to express preference for Coastline Vineyard Church, in its current or future role, over outside catering companies such as Starbucks. Parks are in the process of preparing a draft tender document for FOCG to comment on. It is essential that the tender reflects the needs and wishes of members and the local community, not what Joy Cafe is currently delivering or able to deliver. Proposals from Parks awaited. SD raised the need for transparency with all members following the discussion with the Council as being the best way forward .

4. Treasurer's report

AP updated on FOCG bank account - KL also has login. SP/JM/KL/AP all named on bank account. AP checked we had all been able to log in.

Current bank balance - £651, very little movement in and out of the account.
£126.64 in restricted breakfast club fund, £524.55 in unrestricted funds.

AP suggested giving restricted breakfast club monies to Impact Boscombe for Easter Club, and we can receive funds from Rotary Club on behalf of Impact Boscombe to deliver any activities specifically related to children/young people.

5. Update on Tender arrangements for Churchill Gardens Hub, demolition of old community building and plans for growing areas.

ZK updated - Parks are meeting with legal & Procurement team this week regarding the tender - Joy Cafe to continue occupying on an extended temporary licence agreement until new tender has been organised. SD emphasised that should Joy be awarded the tender, the goal is for the building to be fully used by the community & FOCG. AP raised the need for licence agreement to allow use of the building outside Joy Cafe hours after 31 March 2023. Currently FOCG and other groups have to book through the ASPIRE Project Co-ordinator. We need to ensure that community use of the Hub is protected once the ASPIRE Project ends on 31 March until the new tender arrangements are in place.

ACTION - SD to speak to Coastline leaders who are dealing with tender issues. ZK will raise with Parks.

SD asked whether the BCP Council ASPIRE Project is applying for any more funding for projects after 31st March, but the likelihood is low. AP raised the question of whether any providers would like to continue projects without funding.

Old building - no news or updates, confirmed it is being demolished but no date on when.

Growzone - Jack from Communities and Cathy (Community Engagement Officer) from BCP Council are looking to support FOCG in doing a residents' consultation - model questions passed around at meeting. Plan for door to door flyering to engage residents in process. SD raised question on whether the raised beds could be moved if we were to have control over them. Model will be a survey on tablets. ZK highlighted the need for FOCG to support the consultation process. Plan for door to door around the square. AP advised there are 366 dwellings round the square.

Children's play area - ZK updated that all equipment and materials are in and once weather is better the Council will contact us to arrange refurbishing. Trampoline still has a hole in it and has not been replaced despite the Council saying it would be sorted early in the new year.

6. Membership drive

JM raised need to increase membership. All agreed but needs to be a concerted effort from all committee members and the wider FOCG membership. JM proposed spending some money on flyers and distributing to specific addresses. It was felt that this would be an

unnecessary expense with little guaranteed return as most flyer drops just end up in the bin. ZK confirmed that FOCG membership would be promoted as part of the Growzone consultation. KS has been working on some artwork to promote FOCG. Important that we promote FOCG vision and values in a way that engages people.

NC suggested that more open meetings would help to increase membership. Noted that the December meeting was intended to be a social event for members and residents but ended up taking the format of a formal committee meeting. This understandably caused some unrest with certain members.

7. Roles and responsibilities of committee members

Item carried forward to the next committee meeting.

JM proposed an agreed stipend for secretarial time if a funding source can be identified. This was not considered necessary at this time. Any available funds should go towards improving the Park and/or community events.

8. Events for 2023

BCP Extinction Rebellion have approached FOCG to ask if we would like to partner with them on an event in Churchill Gardens on Monday 1st May 2023. JM advised that FOCG cannot align with a political group or protest movement.

ACTION - ZK to go back to BCP XR to advise that we are not in a position to partner with the event. BCP XR will need to apply to BCP Council for a temporary event notice.

ZK advised that funding is available for community events to mark the coronation. The Friendly Food Club have said that they may be able to support with preparing food for some kind of community meal as part of the Big Lunch (Sunday 7 May). Committee agreed in principle to hosting an event for residents and members.

ACTION - ZK will go back to TFFC. All agreed that any event should be kept relatively simple so as not to create too much additional work.

9. AOB

Raised idea of having Homestart Wessex take a more active role in FOCG, as projects in the park have been well attended. SD suggested getting Safe Families involved for events going forward and letting them know about what is going on.

ACTION - ZK will speak to Kerry who facilitates the weekly community outdoor group on a Friday afternoon.