



Friends of Newlands Park

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/03/26

Time: 1930

Present: George Frier (GF), Fiona Godsman (FG), Stewart Fallis (SF), Alison Ramsay (AR) Debra Gill (DG)

Apologies: Dave MacLeod (DM), Sheilagh White (SW)

Chair: George

Minute-taker: Alison

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Decision: Previous minutes approved as an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

Item: Picnic Tables. 2 robust disability accessible tables from Glasgow Wood would cost about £900 including installation by bolting onto pre-prepared concrete pads. FONP would be required to lay foundations (Postcrete for each leg). Rather than bare earth below, options included artificial 'path grass' or rubberised mesh mats, or use of 'rubber crumb'. Access via such a surface as path would be needed for disabled access. (All agreed that disability accessibility is essential and non-negotiable). Various options were discussed and will be explored further. Noted that GCC ([Glasgow City Council](#)) has been approached and was not prepared to support with any resources for works or materials so the scale of what could be done will be dependent on volunteers or (preferably) a contractor willing to assist free of charge.

Action: GF to discuss with DM regards specifications. FG to post on social media for pro-bono support / volunteers / funding etc. once a plan is agreed.

Item: Pétanque. Floodlights. Playpark upgrade.

Emails (circulated to committee) have outlined GGC's position which suggest that floodlighting is not a priority for 2026. The committee expressed their disappointment.

Newlands and Auldburn Community Council have allocated £60K to Newlands Park for play upgrade.

Action:

1. SF to approach a contact in the tennis club to discuss floodlights issue. FG to speak to Joyce MacDonald at GCC re Pétanque.
2. FG and AR to review previous play sub-group ideas and plans to see what was suggested to take this forward.

4. Park updates

4 apple trees were donated via GCC. They will be sited downhill from the playpark. By the boundary hedge. Supplied bare root and require to be planted soon. (Update – successfully planted by volunteers)

Actions: FG - Call for action on Facebook for hole-diggers on Saturday. FG offered to procure stakes and ties.

5. Events and activities

Gardening – good response from the Saturday hit squad – aim for about monthly, weather dependent.

Wednesday gardeners will re-start soon, weather permitting.

6. Finance

Balance update: See finance report

Donations over this year of approx. £1000 - noted to be more than last year.

Grants/funding: Council funding can be procured to cover insurance costs and other admin sundries. Noted that Friends Groups require insurance as stipulated by GCC.

Upcoming costs: Gardening – suggestion of 4 wheel pull cart and some new plants.

Decision: Budget approved for reasonable garden spend – approx. £200

Actions: SW to be advised of budget for purchase of items

Fund for insurance costs will open beginning April – FG offered to watch out for this.

7. Communications and engagement

Social media – no particular issues.

FG continues to attend the overarching 'Friends' group which is helpful.

8. Any other business

Item: Defibrillator. We have no plans currently to install a unit. Issues of a suitable site and electricity supply would need to be overcome.

Decision: Not for FONP to take forward, but we remain interested.

Actions: FG to create poster with website / QR code to find the nearest defib

[DefibFinder - find the defibrillators nearest you.](#)

Councillors – no recent contact with our local councillors. We will endeavour to maintain contact.

Item: Approach from a resident re the 'doggy park' - can we support some volunteer work here? FG will meet with the resident to provide some advice, but we are mindful of diluting the efforts of FONP and our volunteers and will not be taking on any formal role in this.

Item: Bird feeders: Approved in principle. Issues of re-stocking, infection risk (for the birds). Suggest a trial period after seeking advice from RSPB and GGC Rangers about suitability.

Action: Budget to be allocated to volunteers who have offered to advance this. SW to action.

9. Date of next meeting

Date: Monday 11th May

Time: 1930

Location: Newlands South Church – SW has subsequently confirmed Rainbow Room has been booked

Meeting closed at: 2140