

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' GARDENS

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 29.11.11 at 71 Rodney Street, Liverpool.

PRESENT: Robin Riley Chairman
 David Garner Deputy Chairman
 Emlyn Williams Treasurer

John Allan, John Backwell, Richard Scott, Maureen Williams.

APOLOGIES were received from Gwen Backwell, Mike Faulkner, Nicki Stalker Green and Anne Wolff.

1

MINUTES of the meeting held on 18.10.11 were accepted as a true record.

2

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Friends guided tour for the Cathedral guides was most successful. Maps of the area from the 18th century were produced. The Chairman was assured that the Friends could use the Cathedral notice board to distribute appropriate information.

The Cathedral Clerk of Works was grateful for the tree removal above the tunnel by the Friends.

Glendale have removed the sand and rubble washed down from the West Bank.

A formal complaint has been received by the City Council regarding spraying without forewarning the public and the lack of protective clothing by an individual. The Chairman has arranged that future spraying will be undertaken by Glendale under his guidance. Richard Scott told members that he has a spraying certificate and is happy to be involved.

The Friends continue to block access on the North Bank so as to impede mountain bikes using it as a run. There is need for similar attention to the South Bank. Ivy is still being cut back.

The Chairman is now in possession of a set of keys for the South Gate.

Fifty willows were planted recently at the south end and all but one plant has been taken. The good news is that they were provided without charge.

Lucy Nottingham, Tanner Trust, is happy for the funding allocated to gravestone relocation to go towards refurbishment of the spring. The Chairman has written a Report specifying the requirements on a Grade 1 listed site.

It was also suggested that monies from the Bradshaw Trust could, if the Bradshaw Committee were in agreement, be diverted towards refurbishment of the spring. The PH Holt Trust could also be approached. The Chairman will discuss these suggestions further with the appropriate bodies.

3

TREASURER'S REPORT

The balance in the account is £8,418.

Richard Scott has been reimbursed for the taxis he arranged for the Bradshaw visit.

£4,200 is in the Bradshaw Trust

£600 is available for tree felling

Gift Aid for 2011 will be incorporated with Gift Aid for 2012.

4

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was considered sensible that the 2011 AGM be held close to the time of the unveiling of "Women of Liverpool" statues in June 2012.

It was considered that the author Mike Kelly be invited to address the Friends with a talk on Kitty Wilkinson at the Cathedral.

5

TONY BRADSHAW EVENT

The September 2011 event was enjoyable though poorly attended. The Chairman felt it appropriate to reconsider holding this as an annual event.

The Bradshaw Trust Committee is short on membership but due for a meeting before Christmas. The Chairman will approach the Dean and Chapter for a Cathedral representative.

6

TREE FELLING

The Chairman is very wary that although the City Council owns the land they seem to expect the Friends to pay for the cost of a tree survey.

The Chairman has details of a very successful tree surgeon and his team. Trees felled will be chopped up and left for interested parties to collect and retain for their use.

7

Mrs Anne Wolff has very kindly invited volunteers to a Christmas wine event on December 17th, 12 noon at her home 20 Fulwood Park, L18 5AH

8

MEMBERSHIP

Lucy Nottingham is keen to help promote membership of the Friends.

Richard Scott suggested printing cards which can be arranged very reasonably at £100 per 1000. These could be distributed amongst undergraduates and in the immediate vicinity. On the reverse side of the card comments will be encouraged. Members agreed this a good way forward.

Posters and leaflets could also be displayed in local libraries.

9

The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th February 2012, 6pm, at 71 Rodney Street.