

THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' GARDENS

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 29.03.11 at 71 Rodney Street, Liverpool.

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

Mike Faulkner, Maureen Williams.

APOLOGIES were received from John & Gwen Backwell & Ann Wolff.

1

MINUTES of the meeting held on 25.01.11 were accepted as a true record.

2

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Tanner Trust

A donation of £3000 has been received from Lucy Nottingham of the Tanner Trust towards the gravestones.

Tree Felling

The Chairman met with Glyn Marsden from the City Council. They will prepare a comprehensive report on the trees to be felled in conjunction with the Council's tree expert.

The William Brown Memorial

Glyn Marsden has had a site visit with stonemasons. A quote for repair is awaited.

Ivy

Ivy has been removed from the wall at the south end of the ramps exposing serious stonework deterioration. Glyn Marsden and Derek Dottie have agreed that supports must be put in situ and this is something that the Council will need to fund.

Bulb Planting

Richie Baker (a Park Ranger) although retired is working with the Cathedral to celebrate the 70th anniversary on May 5th of the Liverpool Blitz. They anticipate local children helping to plant bulbs in the form of the figure 70 at the south end. Although the bulbs may only last 2 years members were happy this go ahead.

Bradshaw Committee

It is time that the Committee reconvene to discuss a visit to specific sites related to Professor Bradshaw's work instead of the annual lecture.

With his imminent retirement Canon Hawley has suggested that Eryl Parry the Director of Enterprise at the Cathedral replace him on both the Bradshaw Committee and the Friends. Emlyn Williams agreed to contact her.

Amstelveen Visit

Richard Scott is organizing a 2 day visit to Holland either in the summer or autumn. Already Robin Riley, David Garner, Richard Scott, Derek Dottie and Nigel Sharpe (Community Relations to Parks & Gardens) are interested.

Scything Event

Both Robin Riley and David Garner have reservations about the people who are involved. Robin will visit the Scythe shows in Cambridge and Somerset and get more information. The City Council are very keen it go ahead and have many urban sites that can be used. Robin's expenses will be reimbursed by the Friends.

Cylinders Farm in Cumbria

There are 27 acres of refurbished barn and farmland which is recommended for a visit when the work is done.

Volunteers

Two new people have offered to help regularly on Saturdays in the Gardens.

3

TREASURER'S REPORT

An up to date balance sheet and bank statement was tabled.

The current balance is £8,468 of which:- £5000 Bradshaw fund, £3000 Gravestone relocation fund, £600 Tree felling fund. The balance sheet is filed with the minutes.

4

The Committee finally approved the accounts prepared by Business Accounting Services for the year ending 31.12.10.

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THE FRIENDS WEB SITE

Mike Faulkner did not feel the facility was being used to its full potential and asked for information of events that take place in the Gardens in photograph and text form. The Chairman will contact the Cathedral's Educational Centre for pictures and text of the planting of bulbs.

Mike receives a lot of requests regarding information about the gravestones. Although English Heritage have funded transcribing of the Interment Register he understood two ladies some six years ago collated all the gravestones information in exercise books. It is reputed that some of the books are being stored in the Central Library Records Office. They need tracing and digitalizing for the web site and then a genealogist should be able to analyse them further. The Chairman agreed to initiate a search for them.

"Pay Pal" is recommended to the Committee as a way of getting donations to the Friends. It provides a very good service and avoids fraud. The only information required for financial contributions is the individual's bank account number and sort code. It was agreed to progress this.

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DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Wednesday 4th May 2011 6pm at 71 Rodney Street.