

## THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES' GARDENS

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 18.10.11 at 71 Rodney Street, Liverpool.

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

John Allan, John Backhouse, Maureen Williams.

APOLOGIES were received from Gwen Backwell, Mike Faulkner and Richard Scott.

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MINUTES of the meeting held on 19.09.11 were accepted as a true record.

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### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman welcomed John Allan to his first meeting and explained that there are 23 groups in the Garden Forum in Liverpool and St James' Friends is a Charity, a Company and insured.

03.11.11 there will be their already established tour (Heritage Open Days) of the gardens by Robin and Emlyn for the Cathedral guides and any Cathedral personnel interested. Both Robin and Emlyn will address the use of the Cathedral's notice board for the Friends at this time.

The Friends of Princes Park will be in contact during 2012 for advice on setting up their own Charity.

The Friends of Toxteth Cemetery invited representatives from St James Gardens to their inaugural meeting. Emlyn Williams attended, spoke and gave them a copy of the constitution. He told them to contact David Garner if they wished in his role as Liverpool Parks Chairman.

The collapsed wall at the south end of the East Wall remains cordoned off.

David hosted a Friends table at the Cathedral Fair and attracted two new volunteers. There is one other new Friend who is keen to become involved and to use her administrative skills.

A team of volunteers will prune the trees above the tunnel entrance on 29.10.11. The Cathedral Clerk of Works has given Robin his consent and will provide necessary equipment for removal of detritus.

Ongoing attention needs to be given to the privets, rose beds and the trees beneath the West Promenade together with the holly tree to the north of the roses on St James' Mount.

Attention needs to be given to clearing of ivy, bramble and also removal of all self-seeding trees and the spraying thereof.

Debris washed down from the West Bank during poor weather needs removal and Robin will ask the Cathedral's Clerk of Works to arrange that.

Robbie Prince Head of Parks and Billie Motram from Glendale want a site meeting. Robin will arrange this and when a Tree Report is drafted the LCC is to agree it. There is currently enough money in the tree-felling fund for two days work by a tree surgeon. There is need to remove tree stumps in the northwest corner to aid better mowing.

Glendale are to spray the ramps with weed killer.

Sven continues to work along the North Bank.

The benches need cleaning and re varnishing together with removal of graffiti along the tunnel.

There is ongoing need to block the mountain bicycle pathways on the Great North and Great West banks.

The Huskisson monument and spring need cleaning. Robin will get quotes for refurbishment of the spring.

Robin is optimistic that more volunteers could be attracted via Mike Faulkner's website.

The City Council have changed the gate locks at the south entrance. Robin will negotiate a set of four keys.

Signage in the gardens is inaccurate causing confusion to tourists.

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#### TREASURER'S REPORT

The current balance held at Barclays bank is £8,418

Of which

£4,680 in the Bradshaw fund which includes £375 towards transcription costs.

£3,000 is specifically for gravestone relocation.

£ 600 is specifically for tree work.

Mrs Ann Wolff wishes to donate £40 towards the Year of the Fern.

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The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 29.11.11, 6pm, at 71 Rodney Street.