

Minutes of the Spencer Park and Recreation Ground meeting - 19 March at 40 Stanway Road

Present:

City Council: Ann Akerman and Simon Walden (Dave Lewis is on leave)

NENA: Paul Smith, Zilpha Reed, Karen Berry (Helen Elias is on holiday)

1. **Minutes of the meeting on 20 February** were agreed, there was nothing in them which was not on the agenda.
2. **Friends group draft constitution** – Karen reported back from the NENA meeting, where there were some concerns about the setting up of a Friends group. There is a NENA parks group tonight where this will be discussed, in the light of this it was decided to proceed at a slower rate. Karen asked if there was any funding available from the City Council for setting up a Friends group. Ann said there was not but there is officer time to support Friends groups. Karen agreed to check that the draft constitution followed the recommendations circulated by the Parks team as she had based her draft on “Making a Difference - How to Set Up and Maintain a Community Group for Parks and Green Space”
3. **Progress report on signage and planting in the park on 31 March.**

The group was pleased that signs had been moved in the Park, Karen reported that Dave was hoping to be able in the new year to get signs for the bowling green to be put along side the central path in the park by the bowling greens.

Planting on 31 March, the group thanked the City Council for all of their help. Karen reported that she had had two volunteers from the article in the Echo.

Simon reported that he had a lot of the plants which Zilpha had identified, he also said that there was some preparation of the bed still to be done, he will identify how many plants would be required for the area.

Ann was going to check with Corinne about what time she would be available from, if she can spare someone to pick up the plants on 31 March, she will do, so they will be in the park for 10.00am. She also agreed for the toilets in the park to be open. Ann also agreed that if the planting was not finished when Corinne had to leave at 12.00, planting could continue as long as NENA's Public Liability insurance covered people planting, using their own tools. (Karen to check insurance)

Ann said she would laminate some poster to be put up in the park and in the War Memorial Park. Karen to email poster.
4. **Funding Bids**

Ann said she was unsure if the City Council could support a Parks for the People bid as this bid would have to be put in by the City Council. NENA agreed to identify their priorities in case this was not possible. Ann suggested possibly looking at other sources of funding.
5. **Any Other Business**

Karen reported on the graffiti issues on Spencer Recreation Park, Ann said that Dave dealt with the Recreation Ground.
6. **Date of next meeting**

30 April at 10.30am Ann was going to see if the room at the War Memorial Park was available.