



Guilden Sutton Green Space (GSGS) Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday 29th November 2018

Attendees: Sarah Jessop (chair), Brian Lewin, Derek Hughes, Tony Fisher
Amy Edwards, Jackie Tait, Matthew Jessop (Secretary)

Apologies: Angela West, Alan Davis

Note: These Minutes are a summary of the discussions that took place. Actions are detailed in a separate document.

1. Launch Event

A summary report of the launch event is now complete and on the web site.

A letter and report will now be sent to all the VIPs and Councillors who were invited and/or attended the event to thank them for their support and give them an update on the feedback obtained.

A publicity piece successfully made it into the Chronicle and a follow up assembly has been held at Guilden Sutton Primary School to thank all the children for their hard work and ideas, to congratulate the winners and give them some feedback.

2. Structure & Constitution

The constitution is finalized and all documents are completed, signed and sent off to register 'Guilden Sutton Green Space' as a company with charitable objectives and 'Limited Liability'. This is the first step to becoming a Registered Charity in the form of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

At this stage, in the interests of speed and efficiency, there are 3 Directors: Sarah Jessop, Derek Hughes and Tony Fisher.

The process should now take approximately one week and then:

- a bank account will be able to be set up.
- an application can be made to HMRC to allow reclaiming of GIFT AID.
- once income has exceeded £5000 in any one year then the company will be able to apply for a Charity Number.



3. Parish Council (PC): Update & Next Steps

Having canvassed opinion and support from the village via an open meeting, as requested by the Parish Council, it was agreed that we now need to re-engage with them to revisit the request for them to consider making a substantial contribution to this potential village amenity.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 5th December so it was agreed that GSGS will issue a formal request for support to the Parish Council (via the Parish Council Clerk) by close of play on the 1st December such that it can be issued to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Representatives of the GSGS steering group will then attend the meeting on the 5th to make a verbal request and listen to the discussion.

All members of the village are welcome to attend this meeting and offer their support, or otherwise.

It was agreed that a couple of models would be proposed to the Parish Council:

- a) Make a direct contribution to GSGS to support GSGS purchasing land
- b) Enter into an agreement whereby the Parish Council and GSGS each purchase a share of the chosen land with the Parish Council retaining ownership of their share.

The end result to the village should be the same but the latter option is hoped to be a way of allaying any fears the Parish Council may have around giving money to a relatively new group in that they would retain ownership of their investment.

The potential future management and upkeep of any developments was discussed and it was agreed that further consideration was needed as part of any ongoing discussions with the Parish Council. New play equipment was one area where there may be a link to the Parish Council for example.

4. Community Association & Other Village Groups

There are no developments with the Community Association although they continue to offer helpful practical support e.g. use of hall, communication to their users and members.

It was agreed the report from the Launch Event should be shared with:

- Heather Carty, the newly appointed vicar of St John's church
- Scouts, Cubs, Beavers
- etc.

5. CWAC

Contacts at CWAC with links to 'Green Space' are being developed to test what support and opportunities they may offer GSGS.



Councillors Margaret & Stuart Parker could be asked to provide help to access CWAC management if needed.

5. Land

No significant further discussions have taken place with either land-owner.

The Parish Council are believed to have written to the owners of the football field to explore whether they are interested in selling the land – no response is thought to have been received to date.

It was proposed that the Parish Council should consider making an application for the current 'football field' to be designated as an 'Asset of Community Value'. This would mean that should the current owners wish to sell the land they would need to give the village the 1st opportunity to purchase the land for a limited period.

It was agreed that in the short term the 'football field' would not form a part of GSGS's proposals given that this land was already 'available' for use by residents and more added value could be offered to the village by investing in other land which is not currently available for recreational use.

A CWAC employee has been in touch with GSGS to offer a meeting to discuss other areas of 'green space' that they own within the village. A meeting will be arranged at the earliest opportunity to explore possibilities. This was felt to be a very positive opportunity for GSGS.

While it was felt unlikely that they would want to sell, it was agreed that the owners of the land off School Lane east of Willis Close & opposite Arrowcroft Road be approached.

6. Finance & Funding

An application has been made to the local government Councillors (Mr & Mrs Parker) for £400 to support the initial administration costs of the project.

The Parish Council has already agreed to support the Green Space Group using the Section 106 monies available (approx. £24,000) [currently held by CWAC]. A 'bid' document will therefore be developed, shared with the Chair of the parish Council and the local Councillors (Mr & Mrs Parker) prior to sending to CWAC.

Other potential funding-streams include:

- the Mersey Forest
- local and regional businesses
- local supporters
- tree dedications
- carbon offsetting



It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to brainstorm and agree a fund-raising strategy for the outstanding funds – when the position of the Parish Council becomes clear.

7. Future Events / Dates

It was agreed that a village social and fund-raiser should be arranged for early in the New Year – details to be agreed.

Matthew Jessop

29.11.18