

Guiden Sutton Green Space Steering Group Meeting - Minutes
1st July 2020

1. Apologies – John Jessop, Mel Littlewood
Present – Reza, Tony, Derek, Sarah, Matthew, Amy, Brian

2. Minutes of last meeting

Outstanding actions;

* send out a mailing list update and update content of website, inc new layout plan (SJ & BL)

* set up dropbox folders for photos and design ideas (SJ)

3. Progress update

Legal issues – Progress on prescriptive easement process is unclear – can only be chased up by vendor's solicitor. PC's solicitors are preparing letter to cover the outstanding legal issues.

4. 5-year costs

Work in progress on 5-year costs, together with maintenance schedule and ideas of price. This to be included in letter to PC summarising project status ready for next PC meeting on 15th July.

Landscapers have been slow to submit quotes for work – SJ and BL to follow up their respective contacts

5. Woodland Design

Going forward, will need to give some thought to how we want to lay out the woodland – all random, some areas of particular species, scattered larger trees, include coppice or willow bed etc?

SJ to ask BG at Mersey Forest for list of proposed species and advice re their specific planting requirements as starting point.

6. Funding Opportunities

Ecover 'Fertilise the Future' grant funding – need idea of installation costs for path in order to progress this

Spacehive crowd-funding – not the right time to progress with this – need a clear, self-contained project, also doesn't allow for reward-based crowd-funding

Tree pledges – possibility remains to 'crowd-fund' via tree pledges – perhaps for larger trees to be scattered throughout the woodland?

7. GSGS Co Ltd business

AGM now due.

DH preparing accounts ready for AGM.

8. AOB

Amy has contact on Wirral with trees available – Steve Yandell? - To be followed up wrt species, quantity, timing etc. (AE)

Further to fencing discussion at last meeting; the total distance to be fenced if all areas of woodland were to be fully 'protected' would be 2km, which may well be cost prohibitive and would not necessarily meet sustainability objectives as would in any case only be temporary (unless made of reusable materials). May be better to 'nudge' visitors to keep to paths by; using clearly visible tree protection on saplings nearest the path, planting more densely at the edges, using frequent signage etc. Main concern would be larger dogs running freely amongst the saplings – may need to restrict to dogs on lead initially during woodland establishment.

Next meeting – week commencing 20th July