

The meeting was held at the Barn, Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses commencing at 11o'clock am.

Present: Cynthia Anderson, Aminah Borg-Luck, John Bouquiere, Peter Bradley, Evelyne Brown, John Brunton, Czech Conroy, Nick Daly, Lucia Daniels, Keith Fitchett, Adrian Garden, Richard Gilbert, Rosalind Glover, Hilary Hadley, Anita Hall, Sheila Hearsum, Susy Hogarth, Robert Holden, Ann Kingsbury, Margaret Lipsey, David Lipsey, Henry Little, Peter Logan, James Marson, Geraldine Martick, Melanie Mauthner, Mark McLaughlin, Laura Morland, Sheila Northover, Julie Page, Noshir Patel, Alice Playle, Mick Rampley, Marilyn Rogers, Elizabeth Sanderson, Tansy Spinks, Adam Steinhouse, Sarah Thorley, Amy Till, Nicky Toms, Kara Tritton and Carolyn Weniz.

Welcome: Adam Steinhouse, Acting Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence: Roy Vickery, Jocelyn Pappenheim, Michael Boyle.

1 Minutes of the previous AGM on 22 October 2023 were AGREED. There were no urgent matters arising.

2 Chair's Report: Adam Steinhouse expressed grateful thanks to Peter Bradley, Alice Playle and Antonia Gross who were standing down from the Committee after years of steadfast service. On behalf of the Committee Adam presented a painting of the Park by local artist Mark McLaughlin to Peter Bradley to mark his exceptional contribution over the years. He also thanked the other Committee members three of whom had joined within the year. He reiterated FoBP's long-standing opposition to large gated events in the Park in strong terms citing the appalling damage to the Park from the events in summer 2024.

The full Chair's Report is on the FoBP website.

3 Presentation of Annual Accounts for 2023 and 2024: Keith Fitchett, FoBP Treasurer, presented the financial report and accounts. Last year the accounts 2021-22 had been received. This year we had the accounts for both 2022-23 and 2023-24. He hoped that future AGMs will get the accounts for the immediate past year but this depended on how close the AGM date is to the financial year-end on 5th April.

FoBP has agreed to pay for a new park bench in the current financial year and in each of the next two years. We are allocating £2,500pa for biodiversity planting and £500pa for planting in the walled garden. FoBP donated £500 to the Community Greenhouses towards the new barn – in which the AGM took place – and £1,100 to the St Matthew's Project including £600 for girls' football.

FoBP's income has derived entirely from membership subscriptions and donations and from the summer carboot sales. The traditional Winter Fair has not taken place since COVID but could be resuscitated when Brockwell Hall is reopened. Sadly we did not have our usual stall in the Lambeth Country Show – the organisers seem very hostile to charities: last year the stall was completely isolated and received very few visitors.

FoBP continues to manage tree donations and planting in the Park – thank you Laura Morland and Antonia Gross. For some years Lambeth has failed to invoice us for trees but in the last six months billed c£13,500 against tree receipts of c£1,500. This led to a notional deficit of c£12,000 in 2023-24.

After questions the accounts for 2022-23 and 2023-24 were RECEIVED.

The full accounts and a detailed commentary are both on the FoBP website.

- 4 Amendment to the Constitution:** Amendment to increase the maximum size of the Committee from sixteen to nineteen and allow the Committee to fill vacancies among the officers and the Committee members elected at the AGM.

Proposed: Keith Fitchett Seconded: Laura Morland

The amendment was supported unanimously by the FoBP Committee at its previous meeting. Peter Bradley spoke against the amendment. The subsequent vote was 23 in favour to one against. The constitutional amendment was therefore AGREED.

The full wording of the amendment is on the FoBP website.

- 5 Other resolutions received:** - none

- 6 Election of Officers and Executive Committee:** this part of the meeting was chaired by Lucia Daniels who developed our Accessibility Guide to the Park.

Nominations received by the 6 October constitutional deadline:

Chair: Laura Morland; Vice-Chair: Michael Taylor; Treasurer: Keith Fitchett; Secretary: Anita Hall; Membership Secretary: Nicky Toms;

Elected Committee Members: Michael Boyle, Adam Steinhouse, Peter Logan, Jocelyn Pappenheim, Richard Gilbert and Amy Till.

The nominees introduced themselves to the meeting. There were no opposed positions or places so a ballot was unnecessary. The meeting ENDORSED the new officers and Committee members,

- 7 Affiliations:** to London Wildlife Trust; Lambeth Local History Forum (LLHF); South London Botanical Institute were all AGREED.

- 8 Any other business:** a number of points were raised from the floor.

FoBP has been pressing for an information notice about swans near pond #1. We shall raise it again and pay for the notice if necessary.

Nearly all public toilets in the Park are currently closed and no alternatives have been provided. Of the four accessible toilets only one is currently functioning and there are no public toilets at all on the Norwood Road side of the Park. FoBP will campaign vigorously on this deeply uncivilised state of affairs.

- 9 Laura Morland**, the new FoBP Chair, thanked members for coming to the meeting and handed over to the special guest speaker, **Ann Aitken-Davies** from the Swan Sanctuary. Ann talked about the care and treatment of swans and where the splendid Brockwell Park cygnets go when they leave. Ann's very interesting talk was followed by many questions and information points.

Adam Steinhouse thanked Ann Aitken-Davies and all the members for coming to the AGM and closed the meeting.