

Minutes of Guilden Sutton Green Space Steering Group 29/8/19

Attendees: Sarah Jessop, Derek Hughes, Amy Edwards, Matthew Jessop, Tony Fisher
Apologies: Alan Davis, Brian Lewin, Reza Rahmani-Torkaman

1. School Lane Fields Purchase

- Funding streams from CWAC (£106), Public Works Loan Board and Mersey Forest are all in progress.
- Application for change of use planning permission is in progress.

2. Landscape Design

- Drawings from Nikki Hills reviewed. Agreed minor changes to be made.
- Agreed to present these at next PC meeting, and thereafter at open evening later this month.

3. Finance

- Finance group to meet again in next couple of weeks.
- Estimate is now being sought for the initial landscape work required. This estimate will inform the finance group, as grants will be required to top-up the 'set-up' budget. Grant applications to be prepared ready to submit immediately the land purchase is complete (targeted for end October), as planting needs to be carried out this Autumn/Winter, and by the end of Feb 2020 at the latest.
- GSGS bank account is now 'up to date' following temporary use of GSCA account during the period before GSGS had its own bank account.

4. Joint Working Group

- Two meetings have taken place over the summer involving participants from the joint working group.
- Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) meeting – analysis of the project and the key areas needing action. Next step – to share with the full joint working group, and agree further actions.
- Highways – meeting with Stuart Bateman set up by Cllr Margaret Parker. This was a useful meeting at which issues raised by local residents and the SWOT analysis group were discussed. Notes from that meeting to be shared via the Green Space website.
- Full joint working group meeting to be arranged.

5. Communications/Publicity/Networking

- Open evening is planned for Thursday 26th September in the evening. This event will be open to all, with publicity via usual channels – posters, mailing list, school, website, Facebook groups.
- Wide range of ‘experts’ to be invited, along with others from similar local groups, and invited guests.
- Short project update to be given at next PC meeting – Wednesday 4th September

7. Next Steps and timeline

- Project is now entering a phase where timescales are critical. Overview timeline to be prepared and shared with relevant groups.

8. AOB

- Possibility of offering gift-purchase to fund some ‘larger’ trees within the main woodland area, and also for the proposed community orchard.
- Need to arrange to meet footpaths officer from CWAC – in relation to the green mile and relationship of Green Space to this footpath.
- Safety around pond will need to be addressed.