Minutes of Friends of Crofton and Sparrow Woods Committee Meeting at 6.30pm 14 January 2025 by Zoom

Present:

Jane Andrews John Bray Karen King Claire Osborn Luke Blackman Apologies Winnie Motoko (idverde), Kirsty Blackman

1. Welcome & discuss minutes of last meeting

Previous minutes accepted.

2. Updates

Bromley Council Platinum fund: the content of the 2 interpretation boards has been agreed and the boards built. They will soon to be installed at locations agreed with Luke Blackman at St Thomas Open Space and in the woods near the Recreation Ground. Jane suggested an opening ceremony. **Action Luke, Jane**

Horses in the woods: the Council's consideration of the stables application continues to be awaited.

Winnie Motoko has been appointed as a Parks Ranger to replace Penny.

Benches: We continue to want to get a replacement for the fourth bench on woodland side of Rec. Luke to look for spare one. **Action Luke**

Playground paint needs touch up and vegetation cutback in Spring. Action Karen

Try to get Tree Team to cut vegetation over pathways round Rec to 2.4m headroom. **Action Jane to check how low the branches are**

PhD student has collected sewage data, writing up dissertation for June. Luke keen to raise profile of problem. **Action Luke**

Looking for suggestions for expanding naturalised grasslands in reserve.

Saturday sessions. Action Jane to talk to Caroline

Circular walk to be fixed with 4 new posts from Luke and new roundels with QR codes. Action Jane to see how QR roundels are done, Luke to try to source oak posts.

Small box of leaflets left, not being distributed door to door now

Pavillion storage room decision still awaited. We have an unofficial key.

Grass to be cut in St Thomas Space and end of Recreation Ground in 2025

Boardwalk application was rejected. Luke has a second-hand bridge that might be suitable for a slightly upstream site, but no prospect of improving muddy access. Violia funding possible led by FOCSW. **Action Luke**

Luke invited to be guest speaker at AGM in mid June

Wreath making in November was a great success, and will be repeated in 2025.

FOCSW will attend May Fayre.

2 more owl boxes installed, we now have 3. One can be accessed for ringing.

Oak attacking beetle by Ember Close being monitoring by removing ivy.

3. Membership and Finances

3 new members, now a total of 109.

£2382.70 balance in accounts. £100 contribution paid towards the interpretation board as required by the Platinum fund scheme.

4. Upcoming events

Petts Wood May Fayre

5. AOB

None.

Next Committee meeting 11th March at 6.30pm by zoom

John Bray