

Friends of Waterlow Park Update for TAG 26 Jan to 11 May 22.

AGM date to be decided at next meeting 12 May 2022.

EVENTS

The Biodiversity Group led by Ginnie Cumming (FOWP Committee) and Rita Drobner (Volunteer with FOWP) with specialists from IdVerde, Camden and TCV has embarked on the biodiversity survey of the whole park. This will concentrate first on plants but also add in some data on butterflies and possibly bats this year. Volunteers are still being sought through mailings, the website and regular canvassing in the park. People can apply via the contact form on FOWP's website or info@waterlowpark.org.uk

Fowp plans more pop-up concerts in the park over the summer for which we have received a grant towards costs from Camden Events. We may also add back in this year the concert at Highgate School which we used to run with the Harington Scheme.

A home/park grown plant sale will take place on Sat 4 June; the Friends will also take part in the Fair in the Square to raise funds for the park's planting schemes and endeavor to recruit new members.

Closing access to the wildlife area around the Upper Pond this year for its plant and wildlife recovery gave rise to a search for an alternative spot that could be devoted to nature study in the meantime. The results of our consultation in February on a possible nature education area are now published but the idea will not be taken forward. However Camden and the Friends are keen to stress all nature lovers and explorers are always welcome in the park. Groups over 25 however do need to apply to events@camden.gov.uk Full details of the outcomes and comments submitted to the Consultation are published on the Fowp website and the Friends were duly notified.

PARK AMENITIES

In the absence of plans to modernise the public toilets, we understand from Camden there will be a deep clean and some paint work undertaken for the Summer.

We would like to ask Camden today if the suggestion of creating disabled access to the Swain's Lane and Highgate High Street gates is

likely to be undertaken in this financial year or whether approaching charities for funding could be considered.

We have researched available drinking water fountain designs (see below) and would like to suggest that two of these might be considered. The equipment cost would be in the region of £5,000.

We are grateful to Camden/IdVerde for the re-surfacing of the petanque pitch. It would be a boon to this facility if it could be marked on the gate maps.

STATUARY

We await news from Camden on the start of the repair and cleaning of the shepherd and shepherdess statues and the eagles, to be funded by FoWP, depending on final estimates.

FoWP/Reports/FB/090522

