

Friends of Battersea Park

Registered Charity 802905

friendsofbatterseapark.org

FoBP mobile number 07495 542399



Minutes of meeting of The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Battersea Park held on 6th July 2021 by Zoom at 7pm

1. Chairman's opening remarks:

The Chairman (Garon Watkins) thanked everyone for joining the meeting and said that it was nice to see so many, even though a great shame not to be meeting in person. The Chairman expressed further thanks on behalf of the committee to all those who work both in the park and council and have been carrying out their duties under very challenging circumstances over the last year. He added that committee members have heard from many Friends and park users, that the park has been a huge benefit both physically and mentally during the lockdown, and how fortunate we all are to have the 200 acres of green space in London. The Chairman expressed his thanks to members of the committee who have continued to work on behalf of the Friends, on a purely voluntary basis, throughout the year in pursuit of the Friends' goal to protect and preserve the park for the benefit of us all.

In keeping with previous AGM meetings, the meeting started with the formal business before moving to the open forum and introducing Neil Blackley Head of Parks (Enable Leisure & Culture) being responsible for parks across the borough of Wandsworth, and Inspector Laurie Black from the park's police service.

2. Present: Estimated at 37

Apologies Friends: Andrew Figgures, Harriet Walters, Brian & Elizabeth Livingstone, Sue Whitley, Vivian Minto, Heather Knight **Committee:** Inge Darling & Michele Marriott

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2020 AGM Meeting:

Held on 7th September 2020 these had been listed on the Friends of Battersea Park's website prior to the AGM, approved by the Chairman

4. Trustees' Report:

The Chairman delivered the Trustees' report for the year ending March 2021. A copy was included in the issue 120 of Review and sent to the Charities Commission.

The Report and Accounts are also available on the Friends' website.

5. The Treasurer's Report:

Adrian Flook, (Treasurer) gave the statement of financial activities for the year 2020/2021

The Treasurer thanked Virginia Darbyshire for having been the independent examiner for a number of years and managing the paperwork. The Treasurer expressed his gratitude to Virginia for all that she has done and said that she'll be greatly missed.

Looking at activity within the year 2020/21, in broad terms, income was £18,000 and expenditure was £15,000. The Chairman had mentioned previously that a generous donation of £5,000 had been received, which with other donations, added up to a total of £6,000. Other income was £12,000. Due to cancellation of the summer barbecue and other events, this was seriously depleted.

The Treasurer agreed, as the Chairman had commented, how pleased the Friends were to have been involved with the Sir Walter St John Educational Charity and to have donated towards the educational projects to help 5 local primary schools to understand and appreciate more about the Park.

Now looking ahead to next year with the scheduled lectures and summer barbecue, these events all help to fund the work that the Friends have been doing over many years, which has been on hold for the last 14-16 months due to covid19.

Approval of the Annual Report and Accounts was proposed by Frances Radcliffe, seconded by Janice Marshall and agreed by all present.

6. Financial Examiner:

John Marsh was proposed as the independent examiner by Adrian Flook, seconded by Annabel Stein and agreed by all present.

7. Election of committee members:

The Chairman explained the election of a committee member and formally announced

Fenella Barber proposed by Russ Coffey, seconded by Claire Elliot

Karen Buckle proposed by Peta May Law, seconded by Frances Radcliffe

Briony Newman proposed by Juliet Lyon-Smith, seconded by Fenella Barber

The Chairman confirmed the elected committee members and officers were all in place.

8. Any other Business:

Following the conclusion of formal business the meeting was opened to questions from the membership.

9. Closing remarks:

The Chairman thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 8.03pm