



Friends of Wimbledon Park

3rd Annual General Meeting of Friends of Wimbledon Park (FOWP)

Thursday 19th March 2015 @ 8 pm (20:00)

@ St Barnabas Church, Church Hall, Lavenham Road, SW18

(entrance in Merton Road)

Agenda

- 1) To receive the Chairman's annual report
- 2) To approve the Treasurer's report
- 3) Election of Officers
 - a. Chairman Nick Steiner nominated by I Simpson & seconded by J Mullane;
 - b. Vice Chairman Martin Sumpton nominated by I Simpson & seconded by N Steiner;
 - c. Membership Secretary Janet Mullane nominated by N Steiner & seconded by M Sumpton;
 - d. Treasurer Ivan Scott nominated by I Simpson & seconded by J Mullane;
 - e. Honorary Friend Justine Greening nominated by N Steiner & seconded by M Caswell;
 - f. Honorary Friend Stephen Hammond nominated by N Steiner & seconded by I Simpson.

- 4) Appointment of Executive Committee members

Iain Simpson	Janet Mullane	Nick Steiner
Mike Caswell	Paul Bishop	Martin Sumpton
Jill Hopper	Ivan Scott	Ian Tattum
Mirjana Ilic	Tom Pollak	Nigel Martin
Ken McFarlane	Peter Stechman	

- 5) Declaration of financial or professional interest likely to be of concern.
- 6) To agree amendments to the constitution in:
 - a. Section 1 Wimbledon Park (Definition).
 - b. Section 4 Powers
 - c. Section 9 Associates
 - d. Section 10 Officers
 - e. Section 15 Annual General Meetings
 - f. Section 16 Other Meetings.
- 7) Questions
- 8) AOB

Presentation

Refreshments



Friends of Wimbledon Park

The following sections of our constitution include the suggested amendments to our constitution. Briefly these changes correct the definition and tidy up some discrepancies in running FOWP.

1) WIMBLEDON PARK (DEFINITION)

- (i) The Grade II* Heritage registered landscape (c61 ha) being the open space now surviving of that designed by Capability Brown which is in the ownership of three parties.
- (ii) The Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Merton own the public park (c27 ha, including the lake c9 ha).
- (iii) The freehold of the Wimbledon Park Golf Club ("the Golf Club) (c30 ha) is owned by the All England Lawn Tennis Ground Limited and leased to The Wimbledon Park Golf Club Limited.
- (iv) The Trustees of The Wimbledon Club own the private sports club (c4 ha) on the west side of the lake".

*This tidies up and improves the definition particularly Grade II**

4) POWERS

In furtherance of the objects but not otherwise the Friends through its Executive Committee shall have the following powers.

- i. to raise funds, receive grants and donations and co-operate with and support other organisations or charities with similar purposes;
 - ii. to co-opt a member to fill any vacancy between Annual General Meetings;**
 - iii. to co-opt as Ex Officio persons who by virtue of their status or knowledge bring benefits to the Friends;
 - iv. to accept gifts;
 - v. to communicate with and make representations to the appropriate owners and leaseholders concerning matters relating to the Park;
 - vi. to promote the improvement of communication between owners and local residents;
 - vii. to organise walks, lectures, exhibitions and meetings;
 - viii. to carry out any ecological or other research deemed necessary for the achievement of the Objects and provide for the publication of the results of such research;
 - ix. to open and operate such bank and other accounts as the Executive Committee consider necessary and to invest funds and to delegate the management of funds in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as approved by the Charity Commission;
 - x. to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Objects.
- a. In 4)(ii) to appoint a member to fill any vacancy caused by the subsequent resignation or retirement of any person appointed or elected by the Annual General Meeting;
 - b. Delete all after 'vacancy' and replace appoint with co-opt so it reads 'to co-opt a member to fill any vacancy between Annual General Meetings;'

This would allow the EC to co-opt to fill a vacancy.

9) ASSOCIATES.

(i) An Associate is an individual, not already a member, who supports the objects of the Friends and who is:-

- (a) An individual in an organisation that joins as a Corporate Member.
- (b) An Officer of the Friends.
- (c) A Park Officer.

(ii) Associates of the Friends do not have a vote but there is no fee for this category.

Add new 9) (i) An Associate is an individual, not already a member, who supports the objects of the Friends and who is:-



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Deleted old 9) (ii) 'Individuals who sign up to the Friends' website become Associates of the Friends' as this hasn't worked very well and doesn't need to be part of the constitution.

10) OFFICERS

- (i) Those present at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING shall elect members to serve as:
 - i. Chairman,
 - ii. Vice Chairman,
 - iii. Secretary or Secretaries,
 - iv. Treasurer and
 - v. such other posts as may be decided by the membership.
- (ii) THE CHAIRMAN or his / her deputy shall preside at all meetings of the Friends and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes. The chairman shall ensure that adequate minutes of meetings are kept and all notices convening meetings comply with this constitution.'
- (iii) The Secretary or Secretaries will assist the chairman in managing the Friends in accordance with their terms of appointment'.
- (iv) THE TREASURER or his / her deputy shall keep accounts of the funds of the Friends and be responsible for the safe-keeping of all assets of the Friends.
- (v) Nominations for the election of these Officers shall be made at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.
- (vi) Such nominations shall be supported by a seconder and the written consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained.
- (vii) Nominations, secondings and consents may be in digital format.
- (viii) The election of Officers shall be completed prior to the appointment of further members of the Executive Committee.
- (ix) Nominees for election as Officers shall declare at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Friends.

To add to 10)(ii) a new sentence 'The chairman shall ensure that adequate minutes of meetings are kept and all notices convening meetings comply with this constitution.'

To change 10)(iii) to read 'The Secretary or Secretaries will assist the chairman in managing the Friends in accordance with their terms of appointment'.

We've never had a secretary so these amendments provide flexibility in managing the Friends whilst retaining the same outcome.

15) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- (i) Shall be held in or about March each year to receive the Executive Committee's annual report and accounts and to elect Officers and appoint members of the committee.
- (ii) At least 21 days notice of such meeting shall be given.
- (iii) A quorum shall be 10 members. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned for one hour if so approved by the chairman and two others.
- (iv) The business to be transacted shall include:
 - i. the Chairman's annual report
 - ii. the Treasurer's report
 - iii. election of Officers
 - iv. appointment of Executive Committee members
 - v. questions
 - vi. any other business.

In 15(iii) change to 'A quorum shall be 10 members. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned for one hour if so approved by the chairman and two others.'

This replaces existing 15(iii) A quorum shall be 20 members.



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16) OTHER MEETINGS

- (i) The Executive Committee may call a meeting of members by giving at least 14 days notice.
- (ii) Twenty five or more members of the Friends may request, in writing to the Secretary, a Special Meeting to be held within 21 days of such request being lodged with the Secretary.
- (iii) Any request for a Special Meeting shall specify the business to be transacted at the meeting and no other business shall be allowed.
- (iv) A quorum shall be 10 members. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned for one hour if so approved by the chairman and two others.

New 16(iv) A quorum shall be 10 members. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned for one hour if so approved by the chairman and two others.

Attendance at an AGM or GMs can be poor. Provided the relevant notice periods are complied with we can safely reduce the number to 10 members.