

**Friends of Braidburn Valley Park AGM
Sunday 23rd February 2020, Greenbank Church Hall**

Present: CJ, MB, AB, MD, RB, HC, AF, PB, IB (handing over to PB)
Apologies: LF, AS, AN

~18 Friends present in total

1. Walk around the park: The AGM was preceded by a walk around the park. We then moved into Greenbank Church Hall for refreshments and the main meeting. MB welcomed all and thanked everyone for support. Committee introduced.

2. Minutes from last year: no comments

3. Updates from last year

Nature trail (CJ) –with local children and families in mind this was installed over the last year. Three local schools participated to generate 12 posts with pictures. Funded by the Friends

Work with schools (CJ) – over the last year we (CJ, AN) have been building relationships with S Morningside Primary and local scouts. Ongoing work with P5 and P7 planned for next year. There is also lots of information for schools available on our website

Woven hazel herb planters and willow dome structure (MB) – Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT)

Cherry trees (MB) – some in trefoil replaced, again with help of ELGT – Transpennine funds, assisted by one of the original guides and the daughter of another.

Spring and autumn clean ups (MB) – spring in particular very well attended

Boot camps for kids (MB) – part funded by Edinburgh Council

June Fun Day (CJ) – to celebrate fitness equipment and highlighting other activities. Well received. Plan to run again

Tea in the Park (CJ) – Needed to be run indoors because of the high winds. Many thanks to the church for allowing us to use their indoor facilities. Thanks also to the many volunteers. This year the event will be on September 5th.

4. Financial report to 31st Oct (IB) – see annual report. We have spent some money this year on equipment, nature trail and took less in at Tea in the Park. Accounts remain healthy and were formally approved. MB gave thanks to Ian for his work as treasurer – and also for his input to the Valley Voice

5. Membership (AB) – membership has increased over the last year – with main increase due to recruitment at Tea in the Park. It is very easy to join as a member through the website but paper form also available. We are trying to expand the use of email for communications as much as possible.

6. Election of the committee – thanks again to those members stepping down
IB as above

KY (who has served as chair for a total of 13 years!) KY remains very happy to provide advice
AS will also be stepping down – thanks for all his help

This left three spaces on the committee which we have filled:

AN will move to full time committee membership from schools rep

Two other new members have agreed to join the committee:

Zoe Macaulay

Ella Fletcher

Katherine Tunnah will act as school liaison

7. Plans for the next year:

Spring clean – 26.4.20

Fun day – date TBD

Tea in the Park - 5.9.20

8. AOB

Cherry tree replacement – these are expensive, since the cost includes removal of old trees, protection, watering and some maintenance. We will continue to look for additional funding for this. Members should let us know if they are aware of any funds we can apply for. A committee member suggested we could approach Alba trees to see if they might wish to donate any

PB asked about the state of the path running parallel to Greenbank Crescent - overgrown and very muddy. MB reported that this is a historic path used by Robert Lewis Stevenson. It is apparently not maintained as a proper path as it is not wide enough to qualify

A committee member asked about the pavilion – this is scheduled for demolition in the near future