

WestPark Levy Trust Minutes

Friends of West Park Meeting

5.30 -7.30 Thursday 7th September 2023

Attendance

13 residents plus 3 trustees

(Neil, Paul and Martyn – all Westpark residents and levy payers); Nicky and Laura CPSOs; Christian from Tees Active, Pippa from DBC and Councillor David Beckett

1. Welcome and Introductions from Neil Brimer,

Chair of Westpark Levy Trust and brief description of history of West Park and development of West Park Levy Trust.

- a. Pointing out the need for keeping 1 year's worth of Levy.
- b. Phase 2 Levy is collected and funds ringfenced for Phase 2

2. CCTV

Towers are up though have taken 2 years for the project to come to fruition since the Trust agreed to support the funding of the installation. Images will go to DBC Civic Enforcement and shared with local police. Ongoing costs and maintenance will be borne by DBC.

3. Litter Bins

A request that litter bins in the village centre are emptied more frequently due to the additional litter generated by Cooplands. Management of the Village centre is the responsibility of helpdesk@naylorsgavinblack.co.uk

With regards to other bins around the park and development the Trust are in ongoing talks with DBC to provide replacement bins which will be in keeping with the quality of the rest of the park and sufficiently robust to withstand weather and potential anti-social behaviour. The designer of the leaf notice boards is currently working on appropriate designs.

4. Traffic

Issues raised: one-way system driving down the wrong way near the school partly due to parking traffic signs visibility issues. Also issues around who is responsible for different areas DBC Highways, Bernicia parking area – Police working with school – A local resident suggest parking warden DBC – Resident

5. Transport

Number 19 bus no longer goes to hospital but number 2

6. GP Practice & Community Centre

Question about planned NHS Moorlands surgery and potential community centre. Land needs to be redesignated from Education and Sport to Health and Community use. Green light for community centre will come after NHS land use community amenity and health use has successfully gone through planning

7. Habitat enhancements

Bird boxes and owl boxes – A request that these could be an addition to the park.

8. Events

The Trust are looking to fund a series of seasonal community events leading up to a major festival in 2020 as part of the run up to the 200th Anniversary of the Stockton – Darlington Railway. This will include a weekend event in the summer of 2024 with music for different ages over the weekend.

9. The Levy

Pays for additional wildflower planting, extra bulbs and additional maintenance in the park over and above DBC's standard maintenance schedule. Work on the paths, fences and thinning of trees are also scheduled on a rolling cycle.

10. Christmas Tree

Work is scheduled to begin to put in a power point close to the village centre by John Fowler Way for an annual Christmas tree funded by the Levy.

11. Community Policing

Invited questions from residents put details of contact in the next newsletter and also on the notice boards– A resident thanked police for sorting out Shopping Trolley responding to issue raised at previous meeting. Also a resident expressed appreciation at the speed of response to a call reporting a burglar alarm going off. Laura Dochrin Good place to live

12. Waterways

Beck at the bottom of Wildair West Beck Open water SUDS with deep water - a resident asked if this should have warning signs. Pippa from DBC explained that an appropriate risk assessment has been carried out and that signs were not appropriate for the site.

13. Coronation Heritage Living Fund

Community Woodland also Trees on Tees for national tree week in November Residents can plant them anywhere with permission - Northumbria in Bloom Orchard £10 -£50 k to bid to support community orchard and potential west park garden trail

14. Date of next meeting 23rd November 5.30 -7.30

Regards

Paul Black

WestPark Levy Trust

Distribution

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