



Friends of Duxford Green Spaces



FODGS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25th May 2021 AT 1900hrs

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD USING ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING SOFTWARE

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Duxford Green spaces Association was attended by 7 members of the Association.

1. **Elections for the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer**

The following members were re-elected to the positions shown below:

- Chair: Gillian Heath
- Treasurer: Derek O'Grady (known as Roy)
- Secretary: Emma Lowndes (also known as Emma Merrells)

2. **The minutes of the previous meeting** were agreed.

3. **The financial record** was agreed. FODGS income was £1344.03 from donations (including a £1000 Community Chest grant plus monies raised through shopping online through easy-fundraising) and £500 from membership payments. Outgoings to date have been £340, for website and Paypal.

4. **Membership**

There are currently 26 FODGS members, including 13 Family memberships. We have had 5 new members in the last 6 weeks and expect more to join once life opens up again post COVID. Please encourage friends and colleagues to join. The webpage to join is below:

<https://friendsofduxfordgreenspaces.org/join-friends-of-duxford-green-spaces/>

FODGS is recognised as having charitable status by HMRC, meaning that we can claim gift aid on donations. We have registered with "Donate", which means we can receive text donations, a facility that will be useful for events in the future.

5. **Brewery Field update**

- We will not be letting a contract this year for mowing/maintenance. The DPC maintenance budget will be used for maintenance and grass cutting on an ad-hoc basis to ensure that the different areas are mown at the most appropriate times (decisions which are very difficult to write into a contract with the unpredictable weather lately). Sarah will continue to supervise and guide the volunteer Fridays. We do have the use of the DPC sit-on mower should we wish to use it, though it is not big enough to use over the whole site.
- The south-western corner will have a teen shelter and wooden exercise equipment installed in June.

- We will soon send out proposals for informations signs and boards to all the Friends.

6. General discussion, including:

a. Community Involvement

We continue to look for ways to reach out to more young people, particularly teens. Emma suggested writing to the local schools, an idea we will certainly follow up. Anyone involved in youth groups, please try to think of ways to engage with them, (COVID permitting of course).

b. PR/Media

Facebook and Instagram engagement is increasing. We also have the FODGS website and use Nextdoor if we want to reach more local people who may not be members. We don't yet have a twitter account.

c. Art

Duxford Parish Council will discuss various proposals for using the art fund at the 10th June meeting, with a view to making the final decision in July (DPC has until end 2022 to spend the money or lose it). Of course, FODGS have the option to use some of the FODGS budget for art, should the members agree.

d. Open Forum

None

7. Any other business

None

8. Close: The meeting closed at 19hr35