

**Friends of Chances Park Meeting**  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 6.30pm-8.00pm**  
**St Lukes Church Morton Carlisle**

**Minutes**

**Present**

Emma Richardson	Chair
Val Nixon	Secretary
Kim Fitzmaunie	Council Green Spaces
PC Gontalet	Cumbria Police
PCSO Garrard	Cumbria Police
Peter Brown	
Margaret Brown	
David Pennington	

**Apologies**

Marie Bainbridge	Vice Chair
Iris Rogan	

**Agenda Item 1: Welcome**

ER welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies noted.

**Agenda Item 2: Apologies & Introductions**

Apologies noted. New attendees introduced themselves.

**Agenda item 3: Minutes from previous meeting 15.08.24**

**Minutes**

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as an accurate reflection of the discussions.

**Agenda Item 4: Action log**

**Matters arising from Previous Meeting**

**Tree Survey**

Following the tree survey two trees will be removed in the winter.

**Paths**

The path near the family centre has been topped up/resurfaced. The Bridge has had the damaged boards replaced.

**Agenda item 5 – Reports/Correspondence**

**Labyrinth** –Iris was unable to attend the meeting but sent an update on the fundraising so far.

Awards for all £20,000, Riverside promised £9,999, Partnership West promised £3,000 and our own fundraising £3,000 = £35,999

There is also £6,200 ring-fenced for signage and centre piece. Application to the Heritage lottery has gone in for £25,000 and the results will be available by end October/early November.

**Treasurer** – Frank was not present at the meeting. He had given us a hard copy of the accounts. Ring fenced funds for the Labyrinth are currently £30,000. Current bank account is £1,237.38.

**ACTION – No action required**

### **Agenda item 6 – Park Maintenance**

Iris Rogan, Lee Lowis Ground Maintenance Manager and Kim Fitzmaurice walked around the park re: the state of the park. Members felt it was not being kept to green flag standard as the five year plan.

Lee was under the impression that after an earlier walk that the Friends wanted a lot of grass left uncut. This was not the case as it was never discussed by the committee.

The area behind copses, in front of Park Road and Reform Church grass was also left uncut and led to a lot of complaints about dogs getting ticks. Kim advised that as it nears to the end of the season all grass areas are to be cut and the areas next year will be cut apart from smaller areas, which were shown on a site plan, will be left for wildlife/insects.

#### **Meadow**

Works have been completed by Openspace on middle section only due to cost. More plug planting in spring may be possible and more tree planting to be pursued for next meeting.

**ACTION – Cumberland Council – Update on grass cutting, tree cutting and tree planting**

### **Agenda item 7 – Police update**

PC Gontalet and PCSO Garrard thanked for being invited to the meeting. Following from the previous meeting they advised that currently there is still no funding available to but there may be funding available in Jan/Feb for new lighting. There is a Property Fund for a maximum of £2500.00 which will be available in 2025 and we will continue to enquire about applying for funding for the park. The anti-social behaviour on the park is low at present which means it is not an area that requires extra funding for this.

The anti-social behaviour of egging properties is on the rise and the Police need anyone who sees or knows of people committing this crime to contact them with the details.

The ongoing issue with people on electric scooters and off road bikes is still a major issue in the area and the Police are working hard to try to locate and prosecute offenders. This involves using drones where possible. PC Gontalet works with the drones and is looking for a launch area in the vicinity to launch the drone.

**ACTION – Police to continue to look into funding for new lighting and areas for use of drones within the area.**

### **Agenda item 8 – Events**

Carols at Christmas is being held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 6.30pm in St Lukes Church Hall. St Stephen's band and choir will be providing the music. A Christmas tree will be provided by the Friends of Chances Park and Santa will visit with gifts for the children. A raffle will also be held to raise funds to pay for the room hire.

**ACTION – Emma to source a Christmas Tree for the church hall. Raffle prizes and donations to be sought by the Committee. PCSO Garrard to enquire with Cumbria Police for any suitable raffle items. Any prizes collected are to be brought to next meeting. A Santa suit is also needed for the evening.**

**Agenda item 9 – Any other business**

Body, Mind & Spirit day was successful for stall holders and attendees but unfortunately although £400 was paid for the room at Morton Manor the bar was open and it was accessible to anyone who walked through so it was too difficult to police with regard to who had paid. The numbers were slightly down on last year.

The BMS day for next year will need to be held elsewhere as it is too expensive to use Morton Manor. Ideas were sought for new venues that can accommodate the stalls for this event.

**Action – Emma to ask at the Halston.**

Emma thanked everyone for coming.

**Next meeting is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024 at 6.30pm.**

**Meeting closed at 8.00pm.**