



**Friends of Chances Park AGM**  
**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.05pm – 8.30pm**  
**St Lukes Church Morton Carlisle**

**Minutes**

**Present**

Ray McCreddie	Chair
Iris Rogan	Vice Chair
Val Nixon	Secretary
David Hallett	Treasurer
Catherine McCreddie	Fundraiser
Kim Fitzmaurice	Council Green Spaces Team
Ryley McDowell	Cumbria Police
Nina Orchard	St Lukes
Peter Brown	
Margaret Brown	
Ian Hodgson	

**Apologies**

Christine Connelly  
David Pennington

**Agenda item 3: Minutes from previous meeting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Taken as a true record.

**Agenda item 4 - Chairs Report**

**Action 1:** Chair to update the constitution with the charges agreed at the AGM and pass to Ian for further review

**Action 2:** Ian to review health & safety paperwork on behalf of the FoCP – report next meeting. .

**Action 3:** Kim to send generic risk assessment to Ian, again for review and inclusion in procedure portfolio.

**Action 4:** Ian to review the existing procedures and provide recommendations regarding their relevance and accuracy. We should also consider whether any additional procedures are required within the portfolio to ensure full compliance with current legislation

**Action 5:** Iris to again look at the Gardening Group. Volunteers are needed to plant crocus bulbs on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 1pm and also help with gardening tasks from March 2026 onwards from 10am-12noon and 12:30pm-2:30pm

**Action 6:** Kim will look into getting volunteers/grounds to help, if possible, on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Insurance Cover – Chair confirmed FoCP have insurance cover for volunteers via the Employers Liability insurance, up to 10 volunteers at a time.

**Agenda Item 5 – Secretary Report**

A poll of members has been taken to see if change of day and or time would make the meeting more accessible.

**Action 7:** Val, due to only one response being received it was agreed to keep the meetings at 6.30pm on a Thursday evening each quarter.

### Agenda Item 6 - Treasurers Report

The accounts for 2025 were reviewed & accepted at the AGM held Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Bank balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 was £6,907.26, free cash £3,390.86

**Action 8:** Chair to make arrangements to pass all financial papers to David Hallett, Treasurer

### Agenda Item 7 – Fundraising Projects

Fund raising for the Labyrinth project is shown below – green funding received, yellow outstanding.

Cumbria County Council	£1,000.00
Lottery - Awards for All (Ends May 2026)	£20,000.00
Charities/ Trusts - Partnership West	£3,000.00
Charities/ Trusts - Hadfield Trust	£2,200.00
Riverside Foundation	£9,999.00
Go Cardless (Various Donations)	£2,680.45
Cumbria Community Foundation	£1,000.00
App 3 - Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust (CWMET)	£15,000.00
Charities/ Trusts - Hadfield Trust TPC for CWMET	(£1,500.00)
App 7 - Groundwork UK (Post code Lottery) Lottery	£1,983.60
App 8 - Carlisle West Investment (Cumberland Council)	£4,500.00
<b>Total Project Finance - Funding Approved</b>	<b>£59,863.05</b>

**Action 9:** Iris & Catherine are to provide evidence and complete reports to the sponsors. All funders need to be given credit for their donations.

**Action 10:** Catherine to follow through on prices for information boards.

**Action 11:** Iris to source centre piece for Labyrinth, Kim to assist.

**Action 12:** Kim to speak to contractor for finish date of Labyrinth.

**Action 13: Formal opening of the Labyrinth will be the first Saturday in May – World Labyrinth Day**

Aim to complete all work in and around Labyrinth by start of April – Kim, Iris, Catherine

**Iris to confirm arrangements for World Labyrinth Day event by the end of March**

**Action 14: All new funding applications to be put on hold until Labyrinth project completed -**

Following last year's survey, outdoor gym equipment to be considered. The costs are between £40-£50k with the council taking over the maintenance. Also, more bins and additional lighting were required.

### Agenda Item 8 – Park Maintenance Report

**Action 15:** Kim to confirm when tree planting will happen, possibly delayed until winter 2026.

**Action 16:** Kim to arrange for broken light 11 on path to care home to be repaired

**Action 17:** Kim to contact waste department to see if it is possible to get additional litter bins emptied The waste department are not currently empty additional bins.

**Action 18:** Kim to confirm that the council will pay towards bulbs and plug planting.

**Action 19:** Kim to arrange for Council is to remove ruts in the ground caused by the burnt-out van.



**Action 20:** Kim to arrange for Council grounds department to spread woodchips around the park.

**Action 21:** Kim to work with Iris & Catherine on centre piece and signage.

### **Agenda Item 9 – Police Report**

Ryley advised the group that there had been 27 reports to the Police regarding Chances Park in 2025. The reports varied from anti-social behaviour, road related issues, dog related issues, and drugs logs. So far in 2026 a vehicle was set on fire on the park, reports of people getting onto the roof of the Family Centre and lead being removed.

There is a Community Desk every month at Morton Manor hosted by Cumbria Police.

There has been some success regarding electric bikes being seized and scrapped within the Cumbria Police area.

**Action 22:** Ryley to confirm if funding can be sought from Cumbria Police for more sensitive motion sensitive lights for the Family Centre.

**Action 23:** Ryley will email dates and times of the monthly meetings and also forward a copy of the Facebook page showing the details of the seized electric bike to the group.

### **Agenda Item 10 – Forthcoming Events**

Crocus bulb planting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 1pm.

**Action 24:** Iris, Catherine, volunteers are to be sought to help with planting.

### **Agenda Item 11 – Social Media**

Website upgrade quote of £500 has been proposed by Chair and seconded by Val. Facebook is currently good and updated accordingly.

**Action 25:** Chair to follow up on website quote.

### **Agenda Item 12 – Payment of Accounts**

It was agreed that the Val could purchase printer inks and paper for her home printer to print off various paperwork for the group.

**Action 26:** Val, invoice to be provided to Treasurer

### **Agenda Item 13 – Matters Arising**

A summary of what bulbs have been planted and where they are in the park is to be created and passed to Kim when complete.

**Action 27:** Iris/Catherine to create the summary

### **Agenda Item 14 – Any Other Business**

#### **Cumbria in Bloom 2027**

**Action 28:** It was agreed **not to take part** in the competition in 2026, review entry again next year for 2027.

**Date of Next Meeting:** will be on **6.30pm Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Meeting closed at 8.30pm