

## Jesus Green Association

Minutes of meeting of 14 October 2014 at 49 de Freville Avenue.

Present: Peter Constable (acting chair), Anthony Bowen, John Lawton, Jo Morrison.

Apologies: Richard Price.

1. Minutes of the meeting of 17 June 2014 were approved, together with notes of meetings on Jesus Green of PC and other c/ee members with a) Cllr Carina O'Reilly, new executive councillor for Open Spaces and Recreation on 18 June, b) Anna Michell, new Open Spaces officer, on 18 July and c) Kenny Macgregor, tree officer, on 18 August. Also noted was an email to c/ee from Stuart Rushby of the County Council on 17 July about the relaying of the Plane Tree Avenue and two other paths.
2. There were no matters arising not on the agenda.
3. New signs about barbecues were welcomed, as was their better conduct, but scorch marks, especially on the south side of the Avenue, were numerous. PC commended the cleaning done by Street Scene.
4. Jesus Ditch was also cleaner; AM had calendared it for action. Whether it should be dredged seemed doubtful, unless perhaps at the Victoria Avenue end. The broken bank continued to deteriorate: either repairs should happen or an area of deliberate wetland be created.
5. There were new benches along the river bank and repaired benches elsewhere; one expected where the path to Fort St George crossed the Plane Tree Avenue had not materialised.
6. The new bins were welcomed, especially the 'temporary' ones. Should they be placed by benches? Perhaps not: smell.
7. The Plane Tree Avenue had been remade and relaid most satisfactorily (but an errant lorry had already gashed the seeded area); tree roots had not been found under the Avenue.
8. The Avenue's lighting, though ready, was held up pending installation of wifi; PC had written to point out the need for illumination soon. Of the paths on the Green, only the Avenue was a County responsibility; for the City's paths a different contractor had been engaged. Coordination could have eliminated a second set of works mess, and useful hardcore could have been diverted to the hammerhead, long overdue, still undrawn and unfunded. Discussion followed of whose vehicles had access to the Green and Avenue; whether a refurbished Rouse Ball pavilion became a café or the Lockkeeper's cottage (a mere idea, it seemed, of the Cam Conservators, without authority), serving the café would need stricter control than operated at present. (AB would pursue the question when attending the AGM of Cambridge Past Present and Future on 15 October.)
9. JM had proposed planting fritillary bulbs beside the Avenue. The time is ripe and the offer is hereby renewed.
10. Drainage work for the land north of the Avenue had begun.
11. Nothing had been seen of various tree works proposed by KM (meeting of 13 August). PC would investigate.
12. AOB: a) The noisiness of an outdoor gym. group had been quelled by AM after a protest. b) Questioning the use of Parker's Piece, even temporarily, for refurbishment of the University Arms was deemed not a matter for JGA but for individuals; PC had written. C/ee recalled its resistance to the Electricity board identifying part of Jesus Green for a works compound; contractors appeared to think green space was there for the taking. If use of Parker's Piece would save them 18 months, it should be paid for handsomely, with a strict requirement for enhanced reinstatement.
13. The next meeting would be the AGM. RP was asked to see if Tuesday 25 November could be booked for it. JL in emailing members of JGA would call attention to the urgent need for new members of c/ee. Some of us had perhaps been 'acting' officers long enough to be properly eligible for election again!
14. RP reported by email a balance of £154.05, from which £60 was needed for renewal of our public liability insurance policy (up from £58) and about £40 for AGM hall hire.
15. PC thanked JM for her hospitality.

Peter Constable (acting chair)