**Minutes of a meeting of the Trustees of The Friends of the Scrubs**

**19 September 2023, 6 pm, Meeting Room in Pangbourne Ave**

Present: Stephen Waley-Cohen (Chair), Smita Davé (treasurer), Carmel McLoughlin (secretary), Faye Thomas, Sarah Johnson, Ben Novak, Sarah Abrahart, Emma Ranson

Apologies: Jack Perschke

1. Apology tendered in advance.
2. Minutes of last meeting had been circulated electronically and approved.
3. The next meeting of WSCT has been postponed until 18th October so the Agenda is not yet available. Agreed that the trustees will have a virtual meeting on the 17th Oct to discuss agenda. Agreed that progress on opening of a separate bank account for WSCT would be raised by Friends.
4. The website was discussed and how it is sometimes difficult to find items due to it having grown organically rather than being designed. Agreed that Sarah J and Faye will liaise on possible updates. Notes from previous meetings are already available on there.
5. Masterplan progress: Planning applications have to go in. This will give the Friends an opportunity with other stakeholders to object to certain aspects eg location of the pond doesn’t contribute to biodiversity.
6. HS2 and OPDC funded update: SWC will liaise with Osama El-Amin as to progress on signposts.
7. It was noted a meeting is proposed with Osama and representatives of the Friends on the 29th September to discuss locations of the bins and in particular the pressing problem of rubbish and dog poo bags being left in piles.
8. Sarah A had raised the issue of green waste fly-tipping and the Friends discussed how it could addressed. SA will write to SWC outlining where it is happening so that it can be raised with Osama with potential solutions eg composting location on Braybrook St.
9. AOB;
10. Dog Show – Discussed the notes Ben had prepared. It runs at a loss and it can only continue if that changes. Options: Hay is expensive – could replace with ropes; Could try to get more sponsors to cover shortfall; get WSCT to make a contribution as LBHF charge for hire of chairs/tables and licences, etc. SWC will write to Councillor Sanderson to suggest WSCT contribution and SJ will ask local accountants if they would sponsor.
11. Coffee Van – After discussion (particularly regarding the potential for disposable cups adding to the waste issue on the Scrubs) trustees were largely supportive provided properly monitored and reusable cups encouraged.
12. PSPO implementation – not a lot seems to be happening and the signs seem to be gone.
13. Additional Truck entrance from Scrubs Lane – it is in the wrong place on a dangerous corner and the worst location from a biodiversity point of view.
14. Publicising Trustee meetings – Agreed that dates of future meetings of the Friends’ trustees would be noted on the website.

Dates of next trustee meetings: Zoom on 17th Oct and in person meeting on 11th December.