

Friends of the Meadows & Bruntsfield Links

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Public meeting 22 February 2016

at the Pillar Hall, Barclay Viewforth Church, 7.30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. The meeting started with refreshments.
2. Apologies were received from 9 members. 29 members were present.
3. Illustrated talk by Leonie Alexander
Urban Biodiversity Project Officer at the Royal Botanic Gardens
on 'Making the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links better for biodiversity'.

Leonie was warmly welcomed, and gave us a very informative and interesting presentation on Biodiversity and the Edinburgh Living Landscape. If you want to find out more about an event she mentioned, please contact Leonie on l.alexander@rbge.ac.uk. You can also find out more on www.rbge.org.uk/science/scottish-biodiversity where Edinburgh Living Landscape and Bluebells are discussed in detail.

Leonie's talk was followed by questions, resulting in an interesting discussion of various matters of importance to the Meadows.

4. **Members'** discussions and idea-sharing

1 **Cycle path**

Heather Goodare, FOMBL Convener, gave an overview of a draft proposal to provide a cycle path parallel to Glengyle Terrace, to provide a contraflow for cyclists who at present tend to ride on the road, endangering themselves and others. 71% of members present agreed the following:

A further investigation by the appropriate body into:-

- A contra-flow shared path which goes from Barclay Terrace, along Glengyle Terrace, by the railings behind the croquet pavilion and joins the shared cycle/pedestrian path at the t-junction with Valleyfield Street.
- 2 metre path, which is in line with other shared paths on the Meadows. This width makes pedestrians and cyclist slower and more considerate. And it keeps us all 1 metre away from all-abilities golfers. A wider path is not practicable on this site, without uprooting trees: nor is it necessary.

Action: Heather Goodare to pass it on to Cycling people.

FOMBL looks forward to further information regarding the cycle path.

2 **Outdoor Gym**

This is something that Edinburgh Leisure may want to consider. Sponsorship from organisations using the Meadows may be one of the ways of financing it. FOMBL would like to be at the table if this idea materialises. No further action.

3 Bandstand

Saughton Park is investing £250K to reinstate their Bandstand. We wish them all the best and look forward to visiting them when it is finished. **Action:** Graeme and Fernando will research and explore a possible bandstand/event area for the Meadows. Heather Goodare, FOMBL Convener, reminded the meeting that these sort of structures can be erected legally on the Meadows. We look forward to their thoughts after our AGM in June.

4 Toilets

Quartermile own the site on which council-serviced toilets are provided at the north end of Middle Meadow Walk. These are not accessible for disabled people. FOMBL is suggesting that Quartermile should re-provide these toilets, with disabled access, on the Meadows, at a central position (near the Mural).

Action: Heather Goodare to pass this onto CEC

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.