

Minute from the Friends of Kings Park Committee Meeting, 30/03/2026

1 Welcome and Apologies

Present: David Leslie (DL), Neil Ross (NR), John McCallum (JMC), Stuart Marshall (SM), Hector Currie (HC), Gordon Campbell (GC), Wendy Garcia (WG)

Apologies: Dora Kiraly (DK)

Guest: Kenny Marrit (Item 2 only)

2. Park Interpretation and Signage Project

NR and KM provided an update and referred to two papers which had been circulated. A sub-group had been formed and met on 4 March to discuss an initial scoping paper. KM had developed a project brief, a summary of which was shared. The potential alignment with the Go Forth Stirling Wayfinding project and a Stirling Council Heritage interpretation project was recognised. There is potentially a one-off opportunity because these projects had received funding from the City Growth fund and there was raised awareness of the potential benefits. Possible partnerships to implement directional and interpretive signage in the Kings Park were identified for follow-up. It was recognised that there are varied opportunities and priorities in different locations in the Park. This could allow the development and implementation of proposals in phases and with varied funding sources.

The five points in the Next Steps section of the summary project brief were agreed, and KM was appointed as the project manager. The sub-group would meet to support the project manager in progressing the tasks and report back regularly to the committee.

ACT: NR and KM to progress the project and report back to the committee.

3. Minutes from 26th January Committee Meeting and Matters Arising

Matters arising were considered under the Project List discussion apart from

- MS SharePoint library – some committee members were yet to access this and the link would be recirculated and discussed
ACT: DL to recirculate link.
- Companies House documents had been submitted but it was noted that future filing of required documents may incur greater costs due to process and fee changes
- Volunteer recruitment – one note of interest had been received after the SVE Portal advert.

4. Stirling Council Correspondence

Committee members noted the lack of acknowledgement or response to emails sent to various services over the last few months, and they recognised this as hindering progress on FKP projects and tasks. The only response from Land Services had been the provision of compost as requested. There had been no update following requests about transportation projects. The engagement about the installation of a defibrillator and the CCTV project had been poor. It was felt that the Friends group was not being recognised as a partner, whose volunteers added considerable value to the maintenance and promotion of the Park. This was a deterioration in relations with the Council compared to the last few years. It was agreed that the issues raised in recent correspondence should be escalated to more senior managers in the Council to try and achieve progress.

ACT: DL to escalate Land Services correspondence.

ACT: HC to escalate transportation correspondence.

5. Finance Update

The bank balance at the end of February was £4953.51, which included a further donation of £188 in memory of Sue Beach. It was agreed that the expenditure using the Sue Beach donations would be detailed in the Treasurer's annual report.

ACT: GC to include details of the Sue Beach donations in the annual report.

Donations totalling £210 had been received in the period Nov to Feb via CAF. This was welcomed.

A grant application had been submitted to the Dobbies Community Gardens Fund. SM explained that this was a bid for resources from the Fund rather than an application for a specific amount or specific items, although suggestions had been included to show how the Fund could assist FKP's work.

ACT: SM to notify the committee if feedback is received from the Fund.

6. Committee Office Bearer Recruitment

Both the secretary and treasurer had indicated in previous conversations that they wished to step down later this year.

DK had drafted an advert/job description for the secretary post. DL spoke to this and agreed to circulate to committee members for comments before posting it on the SVE volunteer portal.

ACT: DL to share the secretary role profile with the committee.

There was discussion about how to position the advert/job description for the treasurer position.

ACT: GC to draft a job description for the treasurer role and share with the committee.

It was agreed to advertise as widely as possible using the SVE portal, Facebook, FKP website, park notice boards and other venues. The aim is to advertise before the next committee meeting.

ACT: WG to produce posters covering both committee positions.

7. Project List:

For all project details, see the updated **FKP Priorities 2026** document.

A proposed letter to promote the Peace of Mind Garden had been circulated and HC explained the proposed change from an open day to one of having an individual focus on interested organisations. The letter would be accompanied by a photo sheet produced by WG to illustrate the garden's features.

ACT: HC to finalise the letter and distribution list. DK to circulate the letter via the FKP email account.

8. AOB

a) Facebook Insights:

The recent pattern of views of the FKP Facebook page was discussed. It was recognised that regular postings increased traffic and therefore awareness of FKP activities. A similar insight into the website hits was requested.

ACT: DK to share website traffic insights with committee members.

b) Stirling Science Festival (19th October)

WG explained the potential to use the Festival to promote FKP. It was agreed to consider opportunities as more information became available.

ACT: WG to notify the committee if more information becomes available.

c) Volunteer Recruitment Poster

WG had drafted three versions of a new poster and it was agreed that these be circulated to committee members and then finalised for use on the park noticeboards, in libraries and community venues.

d) Stirling Community Radio

NR suggested that it would be a good time to follow up the previous appearance in 2024 on the "Community Connections" show with Tracy Duff, especially with the potential to link further to the Radio 2 event due to take place in the City Park in August.

ACT: NR to pursue this.

e) Kings Park Community Council Liaison

Possible dates had been offered for a liaison meeting to discuss matters of common interest.

ACT: NR to follow up with the community council.

f) Toolbox repair

JMcC advised that the locking mechanism on the toolbox was broken and the box had been left partially open allowing water damage to the contents. It was agreed that.

ACT: JMcC source and purchase a replacement mechanism.

g) Business Cards

WG suggested that some business cards be supplied to Jane. This would allow Jane to pass FKP details to park visitors who stop on Thursday mornings to discuss the parterre gardens.

ACT: DL to follow up.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday 1st June 6:30pm at Allan Park.