

Draft Minutes from Friends of Kings Park Committee Meeting, 31/03/2025

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: David Leslie (DL), Dora Kiraly (DK), Hector Currie (HC), Gordon Campbell (GC), Marguerite Nugent, Neil Ross (NR)

Apologies: Neil Fairweather (NF), Wendy Garcia (WG)

2. Minutes from 10th February Meeting

Minutes were approved with no corrections.

3. Matters Arising

In February, NF and DK looked at moving the FKP website to a new, cheaper provider (Kualo), however due to time constraints and the complexity of the project, they suggested to keep the existing provider (Wix). DL briefed the committee on the matter on the 9th of March via WhatsApp and asked them if they agreed to stay with the existing provider for a cost of £201.60 for two years. All committee members agreed to staying with Wix.

MAR01: DK to maintain the FKP website going forward, including publishing the committee minutes.

MAR02: DK to monitor email notifications from the SVE volunteer portal and notify DL and NR about any volunteer applications.

4. Financial Update

GC has shared the FKP bank balance, and as of the 27th of February, FKP had £4504.12 on their account. GC added that the introduction of the online donation portal had a significant positive effect on our finances.

GC confirmed that the online annual return has been submitted to OSCR and Companies House and been approved.

MAR03: GC to speak to NF about GiftAid options for online donations.

5. Update on Project Priorities

Updates on projects have been discussed, as reflected in the priority tracker.

Stirling Council has formally agreed that FKP can take over the maintenance of the parterres. The agreement will be reviewed annually and can be ended by either party, and at the end of the agreement, FKP will have to return the area in the state it was at the beginning. The committee members present at this meeting have accepted the council's proposal.

Jane already has some ideas for this area, and the committee has agreed to allocate £200 for buying plants and seeds.

MAR04: DL to notify Jane about the parterres and the allocated funds.

MAR05: DL to check if FKP is allowed to use the community grant for buying signs for the parterres.

Pupils from Allan's Primary School will work on the wildflower patch, supported by their teachers, and Wendy and Jane from FKP.

MAR06: DK to check with Disclosure Scotland if FKP volunteers require PVG checks for working with schools.

In February, NR held two successful walks around the park with committee members. If there is appetite for it, these walks could happen regularly on a 6-weekly basis. Regular volunteers are welcome to join, but at this early stage the walks are not yet open for the wider membership.

MAR07: NR to arrange more walks around the park for committee members and regular volunteers.

6. Events Update – Writing Workshop

The writing workshop was held successfully on the 15th of March. The committee thanked Wendy for her work.

MAR08: WG to include the writing workshop in the spring newsletter.

7. Publicity and Information Sharing

a) Promotion of the Peace of Mind Garden

Thanks to the work of our volunteers, the Garden is in a good condition, and it could serve as a recreational area for local groups. Its benefits for mental and physical health should be promoted.

MAR09: HC to create a list of groups who would benefit from coming to the Garden. DL to write and DK to send a cover letter to these groups.

b) Distribution of Committee Minutes

The committee has discussed the benefits and drawbacks of sharing the committee minutes with FKP members and partner organisations. Although sharing the minutes would allow stakeholders to see the details of our work and be up-to-date about ongoing projects, most members have agreed that there are more appropriate ways to communicate our work to members and partners. The committee agreed that FKP will fulfil its regulatory requirements of transparency by submitting correct annual accounts to OSCR and Companies House. For the promotion of our work, FKP will publish quarterly newsletters and share updates on the website and social media. To allow easy access to the meeting minutes, the home page of the FKP website will have a link to the minutes of previous meetings, and the newsletter will also link to the most recent committee minutes.

MAR10: DK to create a button on the FKP home page that links to the previous minutes.

MAR11: WG to add a section in the newsletter that links to the recent committee minutes on the website..

8. AOB

SVE will do a Funding Clinic on the 4th of April. NR will attend and report back.

MAR12: NR to share updates after the SVE Funding Clinic.

The committee has decided that the **next meeting will be on Monday, 26th May, 6:30pm.**