

Quarterly Directors Meeting of Edible Landscapes London

Finsbury Park, ELL Site, September 12th 2014, 11am

Attendees: Jo Homan, Gemma Harris, Jane Howson, Patrick Maher, Poppy Pickard, Sam McCabe, Richard Vials.

1. Remuneration for Jo Homan

- Jo had previously told the ELL directors that Marc and Simon from the Manor House Development Trust had agreed that she could be paid the equivalent of a full-time income as she could no longer afford to volunteer. She agreed with them she needed to earn around £30,000 per annum gross. £16,500 has already been found by Marc within the PACT budget, this is in addition to the potential £11,000 Jo will earn through ELL as Training Manager and Trainer. It is possible that more funds could be found in the PACT budget as the project progresses. Jo continues to be self employed and will write a job description to cover all that she is currently doing for ELL in addition to her Training Manager and Trainer roles.

Action: Jo

2. Site Management by London Borough of Haringey.

- Haringey do not yet seem to have a vision for the long term use of the site.
- currently a Haringey employee from the Wolves Lane site was responsible for opening the Finsbury Park site, local users no longer having their own keys. Thus making it difficult to operate within our normal hours, eg the site was often being locked at 1pm on Friday, when ELLs hours of operation were 10-4. There could also be problems when ELL courses were running. These already have fixed timings and in some cases people enrolled onto them
- Jo agreed to email Stuart from Wolves Lane, detailing all the forthcoming courses and times we would need access to the site.

Action: Jo

3. Policy Updating

- members present between them updated the following policies: Equal Opportunity Policy; Volunteer Policy; Health and Safety Policy; Environmental Policy; Problem Solving Procedure.

4. Finsbury Park Stakeholders' Group

- Jo gave the directors feedback from this group which comprises any groups who use the park, eg the Art Group, Running Group, Pedal Power etc. Simon Farrow of Haringey Parks has asked the group for current outcomes, future outcomes and what resources are needed in order to achieve them. One result since this group has been meeting is the improved access to notice boards. Other users include: Access to sports, Alpha Dogs, Cob in the Community, Boats, the two Cafes, Finsbury Park Sports Partnership, British Military Fitness,?

5. Upcoming Courses

- Plant Propagation, Day 1 in November 2014, Day 2 in March 2015; accredited course
- Planting for Plenty (previously called Introduction to Permaculture), 24-26 September 2014
- Creating a Forest Garden; 1st week commencing 1st Dec 2014, 2nd week commencing 9th March 2015. There was a discussion about the format of the teaching of this course which normally uses outside teachers. Manor house PACT does the publicity for this course.

6. Gorilla Garden Outreach

- Richard introduced this saying he was interested in putting plants in suitable empty spaces and asking individuals to think of empty spaces near where they live. Jo pointed out that this is against the law and so it should be done very carefully, perhaps even jokingly.