

## ELL Meeting Minutes 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Present: Patrick, Vicky, Sarah, Jo, Les, Tasha, Vanessa, Chris

Apologies: Jane, Carrie, Richard, Alex

### 1. Actions from previous meeting

Who?	Action	Status
Jo	Confirm whether 2016/17 accounts have been submitted & submit them	Ongoing*
Richard /Chris	Asset of Community Value – check when expires and how to renew with planning	Ongoing
Jo	Make automated messages for ELL meetings (so everyone is reminded with more notice ie one week, two weeks)	Ongoing
Jo	Investigate slope on roadside as possible hedgelaying site	Ongoing**
Jo	Liaise with Lloyds about donations for corporate volunteer dates	Complete
Everyone	Ideas for big projects for corporate volunteers	No longer needed
Vicky	Write up what she learnt about managing volunteers and send it around to list	Complete
Vanessa/Jo	Groundwork - look into funding application	Complete
Vanessa/Chris	Connect with funding group regarding meeting	Ongoing
Sarah	Send the group the dates Skinners will be on site	Complete
Carrie	Forward Finsbury Park Stakeholder s Group meeting dates to group	Ongoing
Carrie	Create doodle poll for meeting about structures on site	Complete

### 2. Actions from meeting 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Jo (& Sarah)	Research what accounts and reports need to be submitted as CIC, Jo to submit
Chris & Richard	Asset of Community Value – check when expires and how to renew with planning
Jo	Make automated messages for ELL meetings (so everyone is reminded with more notice i.e. one week, two weeks)
Chris	Email group regarding ordering hedge trees for the perimeter and place order in Autumn
Vanessa & Chris	Connect with funding group regarding possible meeting
Sarah & Chris	Write up Skinners and Capital Growth activities (for reports)
Carrie	Forward Finsbury Park Stakeholder s Group meeting dates to group
Vicky	Ecotherapy - send information from Kim Harrison regarding her proposal to group
Vanessa	Follow up with Groundwork regarding Bags of Help grant
Jo	Send photo of woodpecker painting to group, contact Mark Anthony
Chris	Follow up with Capital Growth regarding insurance and complete
Sarah	Restart email conversation regarding classroom build and choosing model
Jo	Look at funding grants for building from Nessa's links, discuss with Chris regarding any agreement with TOP/ shared usage. Apply for grants.
Vanessa	Contact Simon again if support letter needed for grant application
Les, Patrick, Vicky	Cover upcoming session dates at ELL (5 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Aug)
Jo	Send out Doodle Poll for session cover
Vicky & Vanessa	Resume website, Vanessa email Vicky, connect with Camila and Sarah for further help
Vanessa & Vicky	Vanessa send link to group regarding present for Rich, Vicky to order present
All	Repaint arrow on entrance sandwich board so pointing opposite direction

Notes from Actions:

\* Now that ELL is registered CIC, there is more reporting to do. Sarah offered to help research and Jo to submit.

\*\*Jo looked at site boundary to see if there was space for a hedge, found space was tight. Chris offered to take on this action. He mentioned laying the hedge to make it a better barrier from pollution. He noticed standard apples around the edge of the growing space at Regents Park, but likely not suitable at ELL. Jo mentioned planting hedge in two phases, to assess how many plants would be needed to fill the space. Chris to investigate, email group with proposal, order hedgerow trees.

### **3. Ecotherapy**

Vicky is interested in exploring ELL as a location for ecotherapy and wellness activities. She welcomes others to join her in ongoing discussion around this.

Kim Harrison was in touch with a proposal to run workshops at ELL with her friend Val. They would like to provide holistic workshops for children (primary age), perhaps piloting two four hour sessions on Saturdays this Autumn. Vicky to email the group with more information about this, and ecotherapy.

### **4. Funding**

We were recently awarded a grant of £4k, Groundwork/Tesco Bags of Help. Vanessa submitted application a year ago (for Food Forest Project) but our application was pushed back to a later funding round, so only just came in. Some of the grant could be used as match funding for the building project. Vanessa to follow up with Groundwork.

Chris secured £1.5k unrestricted grant from Festival Republic, on top of the money secured last year for compost toilet.

Group agreed we could put some money (around £200) towards a large painting of a woodpecker by artist Mark Anthony for the site. Jo met Mark at a recent event, he was looking for an appropriate outdoor site to display. Jo to send photograph of painting to group, follow up with Mark.

Mirjam is planning to apply for small Santander grant to facilitate accessible permaculture education with local group (Mind/ Guiseppe Conlan House) help from Vanessa. They have been working at Mind.

### **5. Insurance**

Chris can get insurance via Capital Growth, beginning September. Chris to follow up and submit application on behalf of ELL.

### **6. Classroom build**

Jo summarised: classroom build meeting took place 29th April, where a majority of ELL members decided it would be better to have a rectangular building against the railing near to Green Lanes. It would save time and energy to choose a prefabricated model rather than self-build. We could make

the exterior engaging and unique using elements like 'bug hotel wall', paintings, artwork etc. Solar panels placed in sunny area away from trees, install mains electricity and running water. Jo suggested fold-down furniture on walls to save space. Les mentioned the education building behind Queens Wood café as an example. After this meeting, Jo had sent summary out to the group, with details, links. Vanessa researched grants, contacted funders, and completed visual site map from Camila for application process. Jo and Carrie had researched models/features, sent out links to group regarding so that final decision could be made. Sarah to re-start this conversation via email, to get final decision. Everyone who would like more input to send their ideas.

A brief discussion around benefits of having The Orchard Project (TOP) involved. Jo and Vanessa have been in touch with TOP, Kath and Nicole, via email, because some grants such as Span Trust (£5k- £20k) required partnership with a registered charity. TOP were interested. We could either apply as partners, which could strengthen our bid depending on grant, or reach an agreement where TOP is allowed reduced rent for regular use. Jo to discuss with Chris how to propose agreement with TOP.

Vanessa was in touch with Simon Farrow to try to secure specific permission for build, to strengthen application. Simon was busy with Wireless and reluctant to give official permission (e.g. 5-10 years), as Haringey would like ELL to reach a formal agreement, including legal costs. Vanessa could approach Simon to write a letter in support of application, if needed. ELL's Licence to Occupy is still in the hands of the overstretched property services dept. No more news on this. Funding for legal fees around this could come from Environmental Impact Grant. Jo to look back at funding research/ links from Vanessa and apply for grants. Help welcome. Sarah may have time to help (?)

## **7. Volunteers**

Brief discussion around how to attract new volunteers. (ELL is not currently advertising on volunteer websites, as responding to these emails and recruiting session leaders is very time consuming.) New volunteers would likely arrive when building the new classroom, and through running any forest garden courses at ELL. Getting classroom funded/built is a priority.

Jo is feeling stretched with work at TOP and requested people cover more session dates in future. Les offered to cover this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Aug, Patrick offered to cover the following session 12<sup>th</sup> Aug. Vicky offered to help on those dates also. Jo to send out a Doodle poll for future dates.

## **8. Further points**

Jo announced Richard would like to stand down as a director. Vanessa to send link from Carrie about a present for him, a good pair of secateurs. Vicky to order. It was suggested next meeting we could have cake.

Vicky and Vanessa to resume website. Vanessa to email Vicky. Connect with Camila and Sarah for help.

All- change the arrow on the sandwich board so it's pointing in the opposite direction, there are pots of black and white paint available in the Lodge.