

**Edible Landscapes London (ELL) General Meeting
Monday 1st April 2017**

Present

Jo Homan, Jane Howson, Carrie Anker, Sarah Bush, Vanessa Morris, Les Coupland

Apologies

Chris Speirs, Vicky Lewis, Tasha Eve, Mary McHugh

Upcoming meeting dates in 2019

8th July, 14th October

Actions from previous meeting

Who?	Action	Status

Actions from meeting 1st April 2019

Who?	Action
Carrie	Change ELL meeting dates to second Monday of the month
Vanessa	Contact Paul Mackay to follow up conversation with Jo regarding website
All	Add to site jobs list: create a sign for compost bay and toilet with instructions
Carrie	Find out the name of the new Finsbury Park manager
Les	Contact Furtherfield to ask what dates they are holding events for FP 150 th Anniversary celebrations
Jane	Start collecting ideas for questions for a nature quiz activity/event
Carrie	Laminate the cards created by Jenny with forest garden plant facts, ask Rich if he could do a tour of ELL
Jane	Ask Linda whether she has contacted Haringey yet about permission for oven
Sarah	Get in touch with Linda to offer forest schools docs/info about working with kids and cob ovens
Jo	Get back to the group re coordinator post
Vanessa	Contact Andrew about his plans for bee house, possible meeting
Jo and Vanessa	Discuss accounts

Minutes

Meeting dates

Carrie to alter the meeting dates to second Monday of the month, as Chris's schedule has changed.

Website

Jo had a brief discussion with Paul Mackay regarding the website, he wants to transfer it to Wordpress. Vanessa to follow up with Paul.

Compost bay/toilet

Jane requested signage with instructions for compost bay and emptying compost toilet. She and Rich had used the bucket of urine as an activator on compost bay. Jo says she normally puts it on the plants, and best practice is to dilute 10:1 with water. However hardy plants will cope with undiluted, if easier. Session leaders to make sign with both compost bay instructions (e.g. no bindweed or brambles) and emptying compost toilet, to be added to site jobs list. In the future we need to get a second compost bin for toilet, but it still has a ways to go before full.

Friends of Finsbury Park Meeting

Carrie attended recent FoFP meeting on Tues 26th March. Gave overview, there is a new park manager in post, will check the name and get back to group. 2 park rangers and 2 park wardens will be in post by end of April. In general much more going on in the park, as result of extra money from festivals now being spent within park.

Outreach

Vanessa gave overview of outreach with community gardens, continued Food Forest Project. ELL is supporting community groups to learn about forest gardening, then design and plant their own 'mini forest gardens' in urban environments. Gora, Mirjam, Kris, Vicky, Patrick, Elaine, and Michael are helping at six sites around Haringey. Good input from new volunteers, Francesca, Magnolia and Peter. Mirjam and Kris building raised beds and pergola this week.

Events

Jo is hosting a celebration at ELL on the 16th June, wanted to check all happy with this, agreed. ELL's 10th birthday is next year, to keep in mind.

Haringey council is marking the 150th Anniversary of the opening of Finsbury Park with celebrations and events going in August. Group discussed possible ideas around this:

1. Food (pesto workshops, forest garden pizza) 2. Treasure Trail questions focussed around wildlife, pond, minibeasts. Jane to start compiling a set of questions. 3. 'The grand opening of the grand opening', creation of the pergola at ELL's entrance. Carrie offered to print and laminate some plant fact cards created by Jenny, suggested perhaps Richard could give a tour of ELL like at the Chelsea Fringe event.

Cob oven

Linda had emailed proposal to ELL directors to host a design day for a rocket stove powered cob oven at ELL, on Saturday 6th April. Had also put forward discussion paper on best practice around use of solid fuel in urban community, with aim to minimise pollution and maximise efficiency. Some reservations expressed around adding further pollution to site. However was generally felt that there were more pros than cons: connecting children to magic of making fire, education and awareness around natural build and sustainable technologies, enabling cooking and forest garden pizza for celebration/ events.

Oven design will be portable, not connected to the building, possible wooden shelter to house it. Group agreed best location is under the yew tree by entrance gate. Jane will be meeting Linda at oven design day, will remind her to contact council for permission. Sarah offered to send Linda docs

related to cob ovens and forest schools. Mentioned health and safety aspect, fire blanket and burns kit on site.

Coordinator Post / Environmental Impact Grant

ELL was successfully awarded £10.2k from The Environmental Impact Grant, 2k short of original request. Proposal included £5.7k Project Coordinator (48 days @ £120 per day), Sessional workers 10 days @ £100 per day, and £1.7k for delivery of a 6 day forest garden course. Approximately 1.5k for materials (pergola, flyers, signage etc.)

Fees for Licence to Occupy were also included in proposal, estimated £2k. Originally, the thinking was that Licence to Occupy would be useful when applying for future grants.

Chris had drafted a rough job description, emailed to the group, discussed. Coordinator post would commence May 2019- April 2020.

Jo expressed interest in the coordinator role but needed time to consider it further. She will get back to the group when she returns from holiday in about 10 days.

Beehouse

It has been noted that Andrew's bee house needs repairs. It was suggested that if Andrew no longer had plans to use the building, ELL could offer to help by doing the repairs so that it could function as a classroom, perhaps build an extension to increase the size. Jane and Les expressed interest in this. Vanessa to contact Andrew to ask what his plans are for the building, and if beneficial to both parties, to discuss it further in a meeting with Jane.
