

**Gorgeous Gorse Hill Meeting Notes 17 July 2014**

**Attendees:** Lisa Mcauley, Sandra Aguillera, Ruth Hannan, Nic Ward, Mary Burroughs, Mike Cordingley, Charlie Bowen, Kerril Casey, Marje Kelly, Jamie Whyte, Bill Sumner, Larraine Sumner, Paula Piersson

1. **Update on Actions from Previous Meeting**

**Action:** A boundary map to be developed that also marks up the planting areas.

**Update:** Sandra A has produced a great map, areas of work and activity are already being added. The link will be added to the web page.

**Action:** RH speak to LJ to see if more information is required for Bruntwood to get involved.

**Update:** RH to contact Leanne J to progress. RH will also follow up with the Police Cadets who offered their time.

**Action:** RH to ask for more volunteers on the FB page for the Fun Day Stall.

**Update:** Many thanks to those who volunteered at the Fun Day.

**Action:** RH to ask Ground Works about borders for tree pits.

**Update:** We are waiting on permission from TMBC about borders for tree pits, if permission is received we should be able to install.

**Action:** RH to arrange tool loan with TMBC for the day.

**Update:** We had a very successful planting day and TMBC loaned us a range of equipment.

1. **Project Update**

* Community Noticeboards – staff from council buying additional materials to make them free standing, hopefully will be installed shortly.
* Roller Shutters – Voting event held on 21 June, 40 people voted and top 15 designs have been passed to Unity Arts. Artist is now working them up into useable designs. RH speaking to shops already signed up and approaching a few more to get agreement. Work should start over the summer.
* BT Boxes – now completed. Very positive feedback. The locations including pictures can be found on the map.
* RH met representative from Stretford High, updated them on the project & how they could get involved. They are exploring planting around their railings. Rh signposted them to Community Payback.

1. **Thrive Trafford**

Gorgeous Gorse Hill successfully secured £2000 funding as part of Thrive Trafford. RH thanked Mary B, Marje K & Yasmin G for all their help at the “Have Your Say” event. The bid is for funding to decorate the toilet block by the Bishop Blaize & install a herb/wildflower planter next to it as well as install a planter at the bus stop near the junction of Thomas St. RH is waiting to hear back from TMBC for permission on this.

The group discussed approaching Bruntwood & Manchester United to promote the project & seek financial support.

**Action: RH write to Bruntwood, Manchester United and Manchester United Foundation.**

1. **Data & Planting – Jamie Whyte (Guest Speaker)**

Jamie discussed his work at TMBC, he leads on a project looking at innovative uses for digital data including data mapping, sharing data (open data) a recent piece of work was mapping all the blue plaques in Trafford and then sharing this information.

Jamie has suggested linking data with some of our planting – can we create a pie chart with flowers showing school exam results, the carbon footprint of the area etc.

RH suggested a temporary exhibition that could be promoted. The group was in agreement that this was an interesting suggestion.

**Action:** RH to arrange a meeting with Jamie W to discuss further.

1. **13th August Planting Day**

RH asked the group if they thought the next planting day should focus on one area and suggested the small “park” space at the corner of Ravenswood Rd (opposite Tesco). The group agreed. The day will be more weeding than planting but a good activity for a number of people and as it’s a midweek a good one for kids.

The event is likely to take place from 11am – 3pm

**Action: Nic W to ask Dom to create a poster to promote the event.**

**Action: RH to arrange tool loan with TMBC for the day.**

**Action: RH to arrange with TMBC collection of green waste.**

**Action: Approach Tesco about possible refreshment support (I thought of this after the meeting)**

1. **Additional Tree Pit Dates**

There are a number of streets that the tree pits haven’t been planted as yet, RH proposed doing a few evening planting sessions tackling a couple of streets at a time.

RH will promote a list of dates linked with streets.

**Action: RH pull together list of dates & share.**

**Action: RH purchase plants to add to tree pits.**

1. **Any Other Business**

**Alley Planting –** The group discussed the feasibility of creating social spaces in the alleys with planting etc. The general consensus was that this is a good idea, although with some logistical issues to consider. RH noted that at present it would be a challenge to take up this as key project, however, if one of the group wished to lead on it GGH could support them.

**Action:** **Anyone interested in leading on alley planting email RH.**

**Littering –** The group discussed the issue of litter in the area especially around Gorse St. Nic W highlighted the newly formed Stretford Wombles.

**Action:** **Mike C is taking this up with TMBC to consider their cleaning schedule etc.**

**Action: Approach Stretford Wombles to have a session on Gorse St.**

**Canal Bridge –** The group discussed tackling the canal bridge, RH noted that this has been added to the list of neglected areas and reiterated the message about the Alley Ways of someone wants to lead on this GGH can support them.

**Date of Next Project Meeting: 7pm on 28th August 2014 at Talbot Road Site, Stretford Leisure Centre**