

Merseybank Green Group – Founding Meeting Minutes

Sunday 1st August 11-12.30PM, Parkway Playing Fields

Present: Valentina Medda, Tom Cassidy, Sam Findlay, Andy Adkin, Maria Studzinska

1. Recent updates

- Storage Cabin – Our group was kindly offered the use a storage cabin located at the back of the Den café that is run jointly by Ivy Church and BMCA. Recently water was reconnected and Southway surveyed the roof which concluded that repair will be required. At for our group, it's certainly sufficient for storing all the equipment accumulated so far.
- Playing Fields Consultation: results and phase II – We received 79 responses from residents. The early analysis show that the Merseybank residents welcome change and improvements to football facilities, children's play area, picnic benches, outdoor gym while respecting the natural character of this space.

The demographics of the responders have been primarily white British, Irish and other white. Based on 2011 census we should aim to get around 20 more responses from the residents from ethnic minorities including black and Asian as well as 2 more residents with disabilities. This profile will allow us to hold more accurate picture of our community's vision. We will join Merseyfest on 11th August and carry out more targeted second phase of the consultations.

2. Nominations and appointments (Resolutions 1 and 2)

- All of the proposed nominees have been appointed for the 12month term
 - Chair: Maria Studzinska
 - Secretary: Juliet Hind
 - Treasurer: Valentina Medda
 - Parkway Playing Fields – Andy Adkin
 - Health and Education – Tom Cassidy
 - Merseybank East – Sam Findlay
 - Merseybank Parade – Alison Spencer
- Resolution 01/2021: The Merseybank Community Group has been formally constituted
- Resolution 02/2021: The treasurer has been authorised to open a bank account for the community group with the chair and treasurer as signatories on the bank account.

3. MGG Constitution and CIO registration (Resolution 3)

- The attendees discussed and agreed 5 core objects
- The minimum number of officers is set to 3 and the maximum to 12
- Length of appointment is 1 year and every officer can be appointed for up to 3 consecutive years. The exception is when the role is not contested in which case the officer can be reappointed
- Decision making quorum is set to min. 3 officers or 1/3 of the board whichever is higher.
- In case of equality of votes the resolution can be amended and put for voting on the next meeting

- Resolution 03/2021: The group authorise its chair to progress with Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registration. The constitution will stay the same with changes made to wording: officer->trustee, community group->CIO.

4. Next steps and any other business

- Bank account
- CIO registration
- Funding opportunities:
 - Neighbourhood Investment Fund – up to £10k
 - Beautiful Southway – up to £2.5k
 - Man Airport Community Trust Fund (next submission 27 Aug) – up to £3k
- Once the bank account is open apply for NIF to cover the start up costs, marketing, leaflets and possibly information board(s) at the Playing Fields
- Sam to run monthly litter picking sessions along our usual ones on the other side of Princess Parkway with a separate litter drop off point. The first one in Merseybank East will take place in September.
- Agree the first officers meeting in September to line up a plan of action for 2021/2022 (litter picking, BEe Merseybank, park management plan, wildlife group etc.)
- Andy and Maria to share info about logging the viewings of bats and hedgehogs