

## **FOGG meeting – 6th April 2021 – final notes**

Attending: Ed Dolphin, Richard Eley, Phil Lee, Roger Till (VGS treasurer), Mary Walden-Till, Jeremy Woodward

Apologies: Peter Murphy

### WEBSITE:

History text for the website: **Brian and Julia** to present final version

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### ON-SITE WORKS SO FAR:

Clearing and cutting-back done by **Richard**: the wild onion will need another two years

Agapanthus: Would **Julia** be happy to look after her pots for when a planting plan is ready?

### PLANNING:

Mapping the Glen: **Ed** has started drawing a plan of the north and south of the Glen, using the 1888 OS map as a template, including trees and shrubs

The outline plan will need time to be put together and to be approved; much of this year will be spent surveying the site, doing some basic clearing/tidying up and drawing up plans for work to be started in earnest next year

An overall design concept for the Glen: to be tasteful and understated

A public open space: this will be a place for people to enjoy, to be treated like a garden

Planting plans: not much will be taken out, other than wild onion and sycamores; otherwise, there will be some thinning/checking and several gaps to fill; new additions should be about plants complementing/balancing each other

Weedkiller: we will have to comply with EDDC policy

Relying on ourselves: we will contact people who can give us plants (Kings) and professional input (EDDC) as we need it

Involvement of volunteers/'Friends': this is to be worked out as the project progresses; Margaret and Bob from the SVA History Group have expressed an interest; as has Ken Rothwell, who got in touch via the FOGG contact page

Contacting EDDC: **Richard** has already got permission to do some basic works; **Richard** to contact Paul Hayward/Geoff Pratt and Denise B/Cathy G as ward members to let them know where we're at; plus Henry Gordon Lennox, asking for the official plans of the site; **Jeremy** to contact Chris Holland to keep STC in the picture

Funding: **Peter** has emailed the Sidmouth Trust, outlining FOGG and establishing contact for further development; we could put on self-seeders to raise funds; an honesty-box could be placed at the entrance; we will eventually need to tailor any bid for grant funding.

### SURVEYS:

Establishing a base-line for flora & fauna: will need a minimum of 6 months; **Ed** is recording herbaceous plants as part of the SVBG survey:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/march-sidmouth-hedgerow-herbaceous> (zoom in on the map to find discoveries in the Glen); mammals and invertebrates will be more challenging

Bats: **Jon Ball** to be contacted re survey

## INFRASTRUCTURE:

The basic principle of “repair or replace” should help guide decisions

Benches: there are 2/3 concrete platforms and indentations which used to have seats; new seating would need approval of EDDC; Peter Moss of KOF has been contacted re seating for the Sid Valley Ring

Signage: should be an invitation at the entrance

Information/interpretation boards: EDDC are providing boards for the Arboretum's project in Connaught Gdns (£4k); **Mary** is willing to design the boards for FOGG

Footpaths: **Phil** to contact Richard Spurway of DCC as the first step in involving authorities in maintaining paths; FOGG plans will help DCC schedule their works for the following year; DCC to provide materials, FOGG volunteers; any hard surface work would need contractors

Infrastructure plans: **Phil** to start on draft plans, using Ed's mapping

## MEDIA:

Logo: designed by **Mary** (see attached first draft); Gothic feel, 'Victorian' font; accepted unanimously by the meeting

Instagram: **Richard** will ask his wife if she'd like to put together a FOGG account

Photography: **Ed and Mary** will be taking photos regularly over periods, to enable comparison and development over the coming years.

Publicity launch: it was unanimously decided not to do a 'media blitz' yet

## SITE VISIT:

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am: to meet at the bottom on Manor Rd; **Phil, Ed, Richard and Mary** will be going; other members of the FOGG emailing group are welcome to join them; **Ed** will be bringing the draft plan; if there's a change of plan due to weather, **Phil** will notify all

Jeremy Woodward  
VGS Secretary