



Greetings to all supporters and members of the Friends of Pollok Country Park...

We hope that you have been able to enjoy the park despite the lockdown although we understand that for many people life has been difficult in recent times. Covid 19 has put paid to many of our plans for 2020 however there is still quite a lot happening in and about Pollok Country Park and we thought it would be good to do an update.

Herald Memorial Garden

You may have read about the proposed memorial garden to the victims of Covid 19 which is being promoted by the Herald newspaper and which will be located within Pollok Country Park. Further information can be found at: www.heraldsotland.com/news/18554102.herald-memorial-garden-everything-need-know/

Transformation of Pollok Park – Active Traffic Management Plan

The formal planning application has now been submitted for the proposed traffic management arrangements which will involve the construction of a new car park at Nether Pollok and the restriction of vehicular traffic in the park together with some work to the access points. The Committee had previously agreed that although we were in agreement with the proposal in general terms that we would not comment as a group on the details.



Two new benches recently installed in the North Woods and the riverside walk.

Wee Green Grants

There is a new Participatory Budgeting system in place that allows us to bid for funding with an online public vote on a maximum of three bids. Our bid for funding for training in licensed control of invasive species was disallowed because it was a core role of the Council, however we were successful in our bids for five new

benches and for work to the pond and planting in the wild life garden which will hopefully allow it to be reopened to the general public. It is unknown at present how the current emergency might affect this funding although we have submitted a Covid 19 risk assessment to Glasgow City Council.

Stable Block

The Friends have set up a subcommittee to investigate the issues surrounding the stable block and progress its reinstatement. Part of that involves obtaining information about the refurbished stable block at Castlemilk Park and Saughton Park in Edinburgh which has recently undergone significant upgrading and regeneration. We plan to meet with GCC as soon as is possible to discuss their plans and to

identify ways in which we can help to progress the reinstatement of the stable block at Pollok.



The stable block in happier times.

Guided Historical Walks

We had tentatively arranged for guided historical walks in the park over the summer in association with the Southside Heritage Trust, however these arrangements will need to be reviewed post lockdown.

Broken Bridge

We had planned to work with the parks management to get the little bridge near the St Andrews Drive entrance repaired. In addition to carpentry work there needs to be some stabilisation of the supports which we anticipate can be done with mesh cages of stones. Anyone with skills of this type would be very welcome to join us. Any offers, please email us at: contact@friendsofpollokpark.com.



Work Parties

Our Monday work parties were obviously cancelled during lockdown however there appear to be signs that the work parties might be able to return in the not too distant future although new procedures will be introduced subject of course to government and Council rules. Keep an eye on our website for the restart date. The good news is that the cost of the renewal of our Public Liability Insurance has been donated by Glasgow Southside Road Runners – *Thank you very much!*



Way Marking Posts

The way marking posts for cycling/walking also need replaced and investigations will be restarted to identify the specification for their renewal.

Invasive Non-native Species

It had been understood that the Invasive Non Native species would be sprayed however to date it looks as if only patches of Giant Hogweed have been treated. Unfortunately as the work parties were cancelled due to the lockdown the Himalayan Balsam has had a free run.



Bird & Bat Boxes

Contact had been made with the Men's Shed in Govan just before lockdown to ask if they would be interested in making bird and bat boxes for us out of fallen Pollok trees. The response was great and a sample bird and bat box has now been delivered. Huge thanks to the Men's Shed in Govan.

Litter Bins

Anyone familiar with the park will be aware that the bins need replaced and that these replacements need to be bird proof. Some new bins are to be installed as part of the Active Traffic Management Plan proposals however we have contacted the Council to ascertain when the new bins are likely to be installed in other parts of the park.



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contact@friendsofpollokpark.com

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