



# Friends of Firs Farm – Public Meeting Minutes

Date: 9th December 2025

## Attendees and Apologies

The meeting was attended by Friends of Firs Farm (FOFF) Trustees: Toni Guiver (TG, Chair) and Peter Charalambous (PC). Apologies were received from Carl Redondo (CR), Becky Beach (BB), Chris Ferrari (CF), and Paul Guiver (PG).

## Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting, held on 09/18/2025, were reviewed and agreed as accurate.

Action: TG will ask BB if the documents on the website can be made visible to the public. The group expressed thanks for this effort.

## Fundraising Activities

### Upcoming Christmas Event

The Annual Christmas Santa Grotto and Winter Trail will be held on Sunday, 12/14/2025, featuring live music, family activities, a grotto, and Santa. Supported by local organisations, the event seeks volunteers to help raise funds for a sensory garden at Firs Farm—an initiative recognised as valuable for the community.

### Halloween Event Recap

Despite rainy weather, the Halloween event was successful in terms of support and attendance. However, fundraising was lower than usual, likely due to the weather and the absence of a main entrance for donations.

### DJ Dance Night

The DJ dance night was well-attended, with approximately 50 people, including volunteers. There was a general consensus that future DJ events could raise more funds if organized internally, as the group already has the necessary equipment and software.

### Future Quiz Night

There is interest in organizing a quiz night after the New Year, time permitting. The group plans to contact a previous Quiz Master and aims to schedule the next quiz in the first quarter of 2026. If weather allows, the event may be held outdoors – who knows!

### Tree Planting

The group expects delivery of 105 Year Round Colour saplings & 105 Wild Harvest sapling trees for Firs Farm in spring 2026, with arrival anticipated by mid-March. A tree planting event will be planned accordingly.

### Wetlands Expansion

No updates are available at this time regarding the wetland's expansion, as nothing has been published by the funders or the council. Updates will be provided at the next meeting.

### Volunteering

The charity's trustees, volunteers, and supporters continue to dedicate their time to Firs Farm. Crown Paint has recently provided paint for covering graffiti, making reindeer props, and painting compost bins, which now better withstand the weather and aid mulch production.



# Friends of Firs Farm – Public Meeting Minutes

The group plans to hold promotion days to recruit new volunteers and discuss involvement opportunities. They also propose inviting DoFE youth as ambassadors to encourage volunteering and will design a new certificate to recognize young people's contributions. TG will contact schools and parents about this. The council have repaired the container roof, so regular volunteering can safely continue.

## Shelter, Landscaping, and Sensory Garden

The shelter beside the hub is finished. Tasks left are tidying up, adding lights, and installing signs, all aimed for completion by Sunday's event.. The small free library is still planned - updates will be provided at the next meeting. Fundraising continues for the Sensory Garden, with an event on 12/14/2025.

Action: TG will research the Mayor's Fund as a funding source as proposed by one of the meeting attendees..

## History Project

Liz, the volunteer history researcher, shared her plans to expand the history project for Firs Farm. She aims to recruit more volunteers to help compile historical information, focusing on four main areas. Starting with the existing sports board information, the goal is to make Firs Farm's history more accessible to the public and inspire further involvement.

The group had an engaging discussion with Liz and expressed eagerness to learn more about the history of Firs Farm and the wider Firs Lane area. They thanked Liz for her dedication to the project and look forward to the publication of her findings.

Liz intends to provide more updates and opportunities for involvement at the next community tree planting event, likely to be held in mid-March after the trees are delivered by the Woodland Trust.

## Local Council Update

The council has agreed to consider replacing the concrete bollard on Orchard Walk, which currently blocks the entire path and poses safety risks. Meanwhile, they will move the bollard to one side to improve accessibility for everyone, especially given the slippery conditions and steep slopes.

The council has assured the group that efforts are underway to resolve water pressure issues, with further updates to come. The DDA parking project is progressing, with more information expected by the end of February.

The group is still awaiting outcomes from the council regarding the consultation on traveler pitches, recycling and other bins, as well as 144 The Oaks.

Reminder: Any issues at Firs Farm should be reported at <https://www.enfield.gov.uk/report-a-problem>, via [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com), or by using the FixMyStreet app.

## Next Meeting

The next general meeting is scheduled for 05<sup>th</sup> March 2026.