



Friends of Firs Farm
Annual General Meeting - Minutes and actions of the meeting

18th June 2026 - Held at Firs Farm Community Hub 7pm

Present Trustees: TG-Toni Guiver (Chair), CR-Carl Redondo (Treasurer), BB=Becky Beach, PG-Paul Guiver & BBL-Ben Bleet. Apologies: Chris Ferrary Trustee
Meeting commenced at 7pm with welcome, introductions and site H&S from the Chair 1. Minutes from the last public meeting 5th March and the final version for 9th December were agreed
2. Wetlands / other updates discussed: a) Wetlands Extension - Next phase of the wetlands will go ahead in summer of 2027, location will be far NE corner to the A10 – proposal for wetlands cells where the field gets flooded in winter months. (details / plans / drawings will be shared as and when they become available). b) Hub Events - Updates on the latest events including Bingo at the Hub. Flyer to share available in the Hub and online c) Sensory Garden: to the rear of the Hub. Walked through the proposed plans for the area and that a large sum will need to be raised to achieve this. Several fundraising events have been planned for 2026. Engaged a team to design the landscape drawings from the concept plans following consultation on what people would like to see in the sensory garden. d) Corporate Volunteering – BBL & BB led on the discussions around this. BBL will be leading this in the near future with TG supporting initially. Anyone whose company interested should contact BBL through the FOFF gmail address.
3. Have Your Say with the New Highfield Councillors Cllrs Bambos Charalambous and Peter Charalambous attended the meeting and outlined their council responsibilities. Cllr Peter Charalambous declared his position as a Trustee of the Charity. Several questions were raised by attendees, some of which were outside the scope of Friends of Firs Farm (FF). Attendees were asked to direct non-FF matters to the councillors by email. Discussions / items raised included: – Skatepark / travellers site, we understand that this will not be changing to a travellers site location. – Sports: There were discussions around furthering sport available in FF that have been going on for a number of years that the Friends are keen to progress: Improvements to sports provision at Firs Farm, including a competition-standard hockey pitch, multi-use basketball/hockey courts with community access, improved pitches to support girls' football, and padel tennis facilities. It was noted that the Charity has made repeated representations to the Council in support of these proposals, had numerous meetings with council officers in line with the Playing Pitch Strategy and local demand. It was noted that the Charity have repeatedly followed up requests to the council in line with the Playing Pitch Strategy and for what local people want, to improve the sport offering at FF. – Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs). In response to questions regarding this, Cllr Peter Charalambous confirmed that those around Firs Farm will remain in place.

Action: Cllrs please include more detail of where these are / possibly a map to show as not everyone attending understood this.

- Water supply: The councillors were also asked to follow up on improving water pressure and supply to the Hub and for other uses in Firs Farm (tree watering, tennis courts, sensory garden, people and dogs (weather – Hotting up!). Since the AGM, TG has sent a further email requesting an update on this matter.
- FFW A Flagship for Enfield Council. 2017 Wetlands Award with the Rivers Trust – Brown signage promised to be looked into - still not materialised
- Anti-Social Behaviour is escalating in and around FFW.
 - FOI - MEQs – expectations on turnaround from LBE
 - Kids – Social media ban will mean they will be looking for more things to day in and around their neighbourhood. Hence access to Badminton court for example in FF is even more important
 - Play deficient area – FFW – lets change this and apply to LBE to support changes to a natural play in the kids area.

Actions: Cllrs to keep us updated and what is happening at these meetings please

The Business of the AGM had begun:

4. AGM – key items from the report from Toni Guiver (Chair)
 - Highlight being the Volunteers and the DofE young peoples work in the park each week and their contribution to the public meeting in March 2026.
 - New shelter to the left-hand side of the Hub now complete with lighting, heating and fence & gate to keep secure.
 - FOFF yet to design and install the Champions wall.
 - Sensory Garden -Events volunteering
 - Disabled parking 2 x spaces on Firs Lane by front entrance to the wetlands. Still hoping for DDA parking closer to the Hub end of the Orchard area. Close to the fenceline of the Hub area.
 - Play deficient: although natural play still something we are looking to the council to help for the future in kids area
 - Water pollution reports - role of the EA. LBE community to contribute to reporting: Water Quality testing report to be included in the AGM report
 - **Action: Update AGM report to include this.**
5. Treasurers report & accounts
Update from Carl Redondo (Treasurer): discussed the income / expenditure and how funds were raised. The accounts – draft will be available on the website and are attached to these minutes.
 - Gift aid brought in £7k in the accounts this was due to it being a 4 year claim.
 - Depreciation of building skews the financials as it shows a significant loss, but that's just on paper.
 - Charity is a going concern and has a reserve policy which is met.
6. Elections: Appointment of Trustees * See table below
In accordance with the constitution, Trustee Members are eligible for re-election, and all had agreed to stand again so were elected 'en-bloc' as per the table below. A welcome to Ben Bleet (BBL) newly elected Trustee. The search goes on for a new Chair & Vice Chair for the charity, with segmentation of responsibilities into specific roles. TG has agreed to stand until we find another Chair. PC suggested last year that we have a role of vice chair which was agreed but remains unfilled.
7. Appointment of Committee Members See table below The Committee team are needed to help support the work of the Charity volunteering for future generations and the environment. The Committee is open to new members from the community. Appointments are as shown I the table below

**Trustees: Recruitment / Nominations (Maximum 12)
Max 12)**

Committee roles: (Nominations –

	Trustee Roles	Nominations*	Proposer / Second*		Committee (Suggested interests)	Nominations	Proposer / Second
1	Chair	Toni Guiver	Elected 'En-Bloc' S. Mason & J. Green		Trustee	From office	N/A
2	Treasurer	Carl Redondo			Social Media	Carol Rowlinson	B.Beach / B. Bleet
3	Trustee	Becky Beach			Secretary	VACANT	
4	Trustee	Chris Ferrary			History	Liz Crosthwaite	S. Mason /E. Szekir
5	Trustee	Paul Guiver			Events	VACANT	
6	Trustee	Peter Charalambous			Fundraising	VACANT	
7	Trustee	Ben Bleet	B. Beach, S. Mason		Website	VACANT	
8	Vice Chair	VACANT			Committee	VACANT	
9	Fundraising	VACANT			Membership	VACANT	
10	Events	VACANT			Committee	VACANT	
11	Trustee	VACANT			Committee	VACANT	
12	Trustee	VACANT			Committee	VACANT	
*Subject to the Trustee recruitment process.							

The business of the AGM was completed.

8. AOB:

8.1. FFCH – Discussed upcoming events, hire of FFCH rooms, sometimes during the day as well as evenings.

8.2. Actions:

- FOF to look at installing a mini library outside, completing the Champions Wall, FOF area in the Hub, the proposed sensory garden to the rear of the Hub.
- Becky introduced an artist who would like to start a cultural, art related event or series of events. Ni and Shakira are willing to work towards it.
- Heritage group was mentioned, now having had put up posters then next stages will be researching the modern days: after WW2, the 70s, Lockdown period and present times.
- Someone raised an issue in the ladies toilets to include coat / bag hooks please. Especially when baby changing? This will be for the Hub Operators to consider.

Meeting Adjourned.

Future General Meeting Dates: 17th September 2026
7th December 2026

Venue: Firs Farm Community Hub.
Venue: Firs Farm Community Hub.

Future Dates to be agreed for March, June, September & December 2027