



Friends of Lloyd Park Newsletter

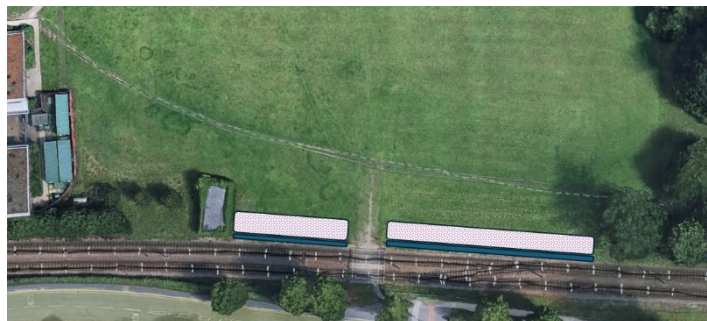
Winter 2025 - 26

This winter newsletter highlights a number of important developments in Lloyd Park, including our application for a grant to deliver the wildflower meadow with volunteer support, updates from our Annual General Meeting, and new opportunities to work with partners such as CPRE London, TCV and Croydon Council. We share progress on plans for a community-led tree nursery as part of the London Tree Ring, improvements to planting around the pond, replacement tree planting across the park, and updates from the Mayor and the Police. The newsletter also outlines the work of your Committee over the past year, our current financial position, and how members can get involved or support our activities.

We have applied for a grant to complete the Wildflower planting

Work has been completed on the new pedestrian crossing over the tram line opposite Coombe Wood School at the Melville Avenue site. However, TfL did not carry out the anticipated wildflower planting and, as a result, TCV was unable to proceed with the planned hedgerow planting. The Council has been seeking to persuade the TfL contractor to complete the wildflower planting, since they reneged on this part of the plan from last October.

Wildflower seeding should take place in late September or early October for effective growth, with hedgerow planting ideally following in late October or early November.



As there is no certainty that the TfL contractor will undertake the wildflower seeding within this optimal window — or indeed at all — our Committee has applied for a grant to enable us to

deliver the wildflower planting ourselves using volunteers. We expect to be informed of the outcome of the grant application in early February.

If you would like to volunteer to participate in this activity should our grant application be successful, please let us know via info@friendsoflloydpark.com.

Annual General Meeting – 26 November 2025

Our AGM was on 26 November in the Lloyd Park Café and was well received.

Phil Paulo, a director from the London branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE London), spoke about the organisation's work, with a particular focus on **The London Tree Ring**, and outlined how CPRE London could support activity in Lloyd Park.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.cprelondon.org.uk/we-care-about/the-london-tree-ring/>



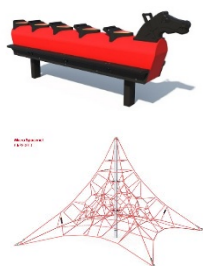
Following this, we have continued discussions with Phil. One activity is the proposal for the introduction of a **tree nursery to grow saplings** as part of the London Tree Ring programme, although this will require further community engagement to progress.

CPRE London has also agreed to work with us, **TCV**, and **Croydon Council** to improve planting around the pond, with the aim of maintaining and enhancing this habitat. Subject to agreement from all parties, the current expectation is that this work could take place in **autumn 2027**, which appears feasible.

In addition, there has since been discussion about replacing trees that were lost several years ago between the playing fields and the tree line running between Lloyd Park Avenue and the old oak. The Council has also been considering this, and a coordinated plan will need to be developed to take this forward. More generally, ideas were discussed around improving the tree line across the park through new planting, as well as introducing additional trees along existing and new paths to provide increased shade and shelter.

Mayor's Update

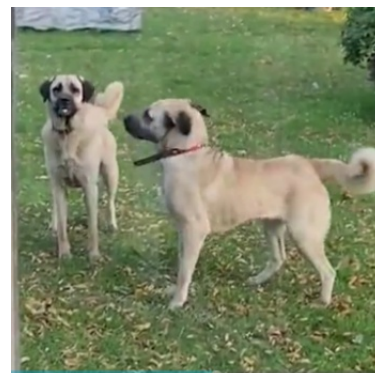
The Mayor, **Jason Perry**, also attended and spoke at the meeting. He confirmed that the previously proposed padel tennis scheme for the Bowling Green has not progressed, and expressed his support for a **community-led tree nursery** on the Bowling Green site to grow saplings for the London Tree Ring, provided that the Council's maintenance costs for the site are covered. Two Council officers attended the AGM with the Mayor, and he nominated one of them as our point of contact to help progress this proposal.



The Mayor also spoke about a new path planned to connect with the new pedestrian tram crossing, which is part of an initiative to follow the tram lines and connect the various parks. He also confirmed that orders have been placed for a new rocking horse and a replacement for the tall climber in the playground. We have asked for clarification of the installation date.

Police Update

The Police also attended and provided an update on the appeal relating to the owner of the Kangal dogs involved in the incidents in July 2023. The appeal court upheld the original judgement, including costs, fines and compensation totalling approximately £106,000, as well as the destruction of the dogs. The owner has since appealed to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, and it is not yet known whether the Supreme Court will agree to hear the appeal.



The Police also provided feedback on an increased number of people sleeping rough in parks, including some in Lloyd Park. Rough sleepers can be reported via <https://thestreetlink.org.uk> to make sure they get the help they need.

Committee Update

The Chair of the Committee provided an update on the key issues from the past year, including the work undertaken to move forward proposals relating to the Bowling Green, the route of the proposed new path, and the implementation of the wildflower meadow. He also reiterated that the Committee is careful not to take unilateral decisions about the future of Lloyd Park and confirmed that our

established approach of seeking and reflecting members' views to guide how we engage with and influence the Council will continue.

All our existing committee members all wanted to continue in their roles and were elected to do so and a new committee member, Zhiv, was elected to join our committee with a specific interest in the playground.

Treasurer's Update

Our Treasurer reported that we had **£1,538 in the bank** at the time of the AGM. Our main expenses are for our website and email account, hire of the café for the AGM, and bank charges, as banks no longer provide free community accounts.

Our income last year came from membership fees, which are suggested at **£5 per household or email address**. However, our expenditure currently exceeds our income, and we need more of our members to make this contribution in order for us to break even. This is particularly important this year because, if our grant application is successful, it will only cover some of the costs of implementing the wildflower meadow.

Membership fees and other donations can be made to our bank account as follows:

Account Name: FRIENDS OF LLOYD PARK CROYDON

Sort Code: 30-98-90

Account Number: 18472268

We need to increase our income to ensure that we can cover our expenditure. In addition to making your own donation, if you are aware of any businesses that may be willing to support us financially, please encourage them to do so, or suggest potential contacts via info@friendsoflloydpark.com.

Membership

If you are not already a registered member, it is easy to join. Simply email info@friendsoflloydpark.com and let us know. We will add you to our mailing list so that you receive our quarterly newsletter and an invitation to participate in our AGM.