

## **ABNEY PARK USER GROUP MINUTES- AGM**

Date: **Tuesday 15th July 2025**

Time: **6.30-7.30pm**

Location: **Harriet Delph Room, Abney Park**

In attendance: committee members - Henrietta Walker (Chair), Fidelma Dearie (Treasurer), Louise Smith (Secretary), Martin Dockrell, Rosemary Sales, Josh Whitehead, Sue Perks plus 20 other members.

- 1 Welcome from the Chair.
- 2 The minutes of our inaugural AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were agreed.
- 3 Chair's annual report – attached.
- 4 Treasurer's annual report – attached.
- 5 Election of committee members:  
Many thanks to outgoing committee members Jay Yeats and Tim Stilwell who have indicated they do not wish to seek re-election.  
The following were elected for the forthcoming year:  
Henrietta Walker – Chair  
Louise Smith – Vice-Chair  
Fidelma Dearie – Treasurer  
Rosemary Sales – Secretary  
Other committee members – Josh Whitehead, Sue Perks, Martin Dockrell and Sandy Weiland.
- 6 Our priorities for next year:
  - To continue to work closely with the Council and to be involved in future plans; to raise user concerns with park management and work with them to find solutions – especially over safety issues and matters of ecological importance such as leaf blowers.
  - To organise an exhibition and sale of Gina Rackley's paintings to raise money for trees and plants for Abney Park.
  - To encourage user group members to volunteer in the park – <https://hackney.gov.uk/parks-volunteering> - and to join Abney Ecology Volunteers group - contact Kirsten Foster 07935 992773 for details.
  - To pursue the issue of public membership with Abney Park Trust.

7 Dates of future events:

- Communal walks: Wednesdays at 6 pm – meet Church St gate.
- Landscape volunteering: Tuesdays 6-8 pm (during summer) and Thursdays 9.30 am – 12.30 pm throughout the year.
- Next monthly litter pick: 10 am – 12 noon Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August – meet outside park office.
- Next walkabout with park manager: 10 – 11 am Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – meet outside park office.
- Full user group meeting: **TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025** at 7 pm – venue TBC.