

Friends of Valley Gardens

Christmas 2020

No 22

Merry Christmas



News

There is nothing to report on the work party front, what with lockdown and the appalling weather we've been having.

However there is news on the grant front.

The Mayor's Community Fund has given us £300 towards Bird and Bat boxes for the gardens. Roger Burnett has offered to construct the boxes for just the cost of the wood. This is great news and will make the grant go that bit further. He has also offered to put them up, again saving us money and time.

Hankinsons, the bridge painters, decided not to fund the cost of a seat, but will fund the bird table and are providing the paint to do the footbridge. Again Roger will construct the bird table for us and has a design for a reasonably vandal proof table.

Persimmon, the house builder, has given us a £1000 to improve disabled access to the seat that we hoped Hankinson's would buy for us. We will meet with the Parks Department after Christmas and decide how we can best utilise this money to achieve our objective - a seat on the meadow area.

Restore and Recover, a North Yorkshire County Council organisation, has given us £667 to help us get through Covid. As part of the application process we have had to state exactly what we intend to spend the money on, so it should pay for cleaning materials such as hand sanitiser, new tools, insurance and a First Aid Course for two of our members.

The one day Emergency First Aid at work course will take place on the 1st March next year and is valid for three years. If you would like to book a place on the course, let me know.



There is a way that you could help raise funds for the club without leaving the house, providing you do at least some of your shopping on line. Easyfundraising is a website that has an agreement with a lot of on-line retailers, and if you shop with the retailer, they will donate a small percentage of the sale to The Friends of Valley Gardens, through the Easyfundraising website. The percentage of the sale that comes to the Friends is generally small – Amazon gives 0.5%, Marks and Spencers 2%, John Lewis up to 3%. But it does add up if enough members sign up.

The site has been recommended by a number of charities and scores highly on feedback scores.

If you want to use it and help raise funds, Google 'joining Easyfundraising'. Then type in, Friends of Scarborough Valley Gardens into the box asking who you wish to support. From then on, just follow the instructions.

To activate donations you need to go to the Easyfundraising site first and choose a retailer and Easyfundraising will transfer you to the retailer's site. However, if you download the donation reminder, then when you search for items you want to buy it will indicate which retailers give a donation and you click on the pink reminder button.

It really is very straightforward to use and a number of organisations claim to raise over a thousand pounds a year by using Easyfundraising. Give it a go. It is something you can do to help while we are stuck at home.

