



Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds

March 2015

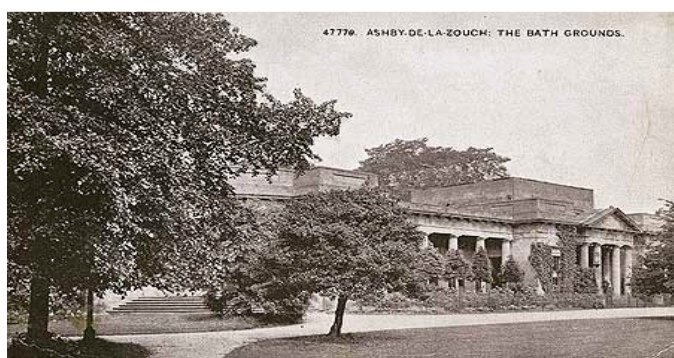
Footpath Project Update

Heritage Lottery Funding.

As you know, over the last few months the Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds have been developing a project for the Bath Grounds which will include a new all-weather footpath. We recently held very encouraging discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund to raise the balance of monies we need to make this project a reality and we are now developing that application.

To be successful it will need to emphasise the fascinating history of the Bath Grounds and include a significant level of community involvement and heritage learning activities to complement the capital works. We are currently working with the Museum and History Society on developing the educational programme. Subjects we are working towards for our heritage project plan for spring/summer 2016 include;

archaeological research, a 'Bath Grounds Trail', a mosaic to be installed in the Bath Grounds, depicting the Ivanhoe Spa, talks/walks and presentations of the history of the Ivanhoe Spa and its association with the Bath Grounds, a dramatic production with school and community participation, our very own song/music composition 'the Ballard of the Bath Grounds'.



Contacts

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Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

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Membership renewal

Thank you all so much for your support and membership in 2014. Your money have helped us to do the following;

- Printing, photocopying and advertising costs – print and poster costs really helped us to let the public know the details of the housing application and get the support to have building application withdrawn
- Perennial planting on Bath Ground flower bed
- Paying for pitches at the Food Gusto and Jims Tractor Rally to raise awareness.
- Develop our bids for the footpath project

In 2015 our aims are to;

- Ensure the sensitive development of the Royal Hotel and its new buildings
- Continue to campaign to obtain the freehold of the grounds for the community
- Continue to fight ASB on the Bath Grounds
- Work with the Town Council to improve planting and maintenance standards
- Ensure that the Bath Grounds are designated as a protected "Local Green Space" in the Neighbourhood Plan

To achieve all our aims including progressing the Footpath Project on the Bath Grounds for this coming year, we need your continued support. Your annual membership ran for the 2014 calendar year so, if you haven't renewed it yet, now is the time to renew for 2015.

Please pay your £5 renewal subscription by;

- Bank transfer to Acc no. 30039268 sort code 77-15-13 (please provide your name so we know who sent the money), or
- Send a cheque payable to "Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds" to Dave Bigby, Treasurer, 16 Tower Gardens, Ashby, LE65 2GZ.
- Alternatively you can also pay in cash and drop your monies off to the address above. Please ensure you write your name and address on the envelope and what the payment is for.

You can also set up a standing order to avoid future hassle.

Ashby's Big Tidy UP!



It was a great day for the Ashby Big Tidy Up 2015, on Saturday 7th March, brilliant weather and a good turn out! Thank you so much to The Friends of Ashby Bath Ground litter picking volunteers!!!

In 2 hours our group collected a whopping 28 large bin bags of rubbish (11 bags from The Bath Grounds and 17 bags

from Castle Field, leading up to the Castle). It certainly shows that when a team get together they can really knuckle down and achieve something positive. Look out for future opportunities to get involved in a litter pick on the Bath Grounds, it's very satisfying and really gives you the 'feel good factor'.



The Big Plant Sale

The Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds will be having a Plant Sale on Saturday 23rd May 2015, at the Ivanhoe School as part of the Ashby Arts Festival week. Half the money we raise will be donated to the Hospice Hope Charity.



GET INVOLVED!

Our plant sale will rely on the kind donations of members, local groups and friends to make this a successful event and raise monies for Hospice Hope and the Bath Grounds. **All you green fingers gardeners out there, now is the time to start thinking about sowing a few perennial seeds, taking cuttings to grow on, or dividing perennials to make lots of new plants ready for the sale on Saturday May 23rd 2015.**

- You can donate perennials, including grasses, herbs, vegetable plants, house plants (no annuals please)
- Further information on where to drop plants off w/c 18 May 2015 will be circulated.
- Posters for the Plant Sale will be put on towards the end of April 2015

Bring the Pride back to the Bath Grounds

This year we will be launching our campaign to support improvements to reduce dog waste and litter on the Bath Grounds. Watch out for us on Market Street soon, with details of our 2015 campaign. In the meantime, please continue to report ASB activity to the NWLDC by telephone or through their website https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/pages/antisocial_behaviour Also Report to Police on the non-emergency number 101 at the time the incident is happening – **You can ask to remain anonymous if you prefer.**

<http://www.leics.police.uk/local-policing/ashby/team#.U8LioJRdWJB>