Meeting with Scott Cartwright and Clyde Loakes, present from WF4D Fabien Strawbridge-Ho and Marita Keremezo – held 21st of April 2016 (updates from correspondence received 22nd of April in blue)

MK informed SC and CL of the changes within the board of WF4D and the fact that Mark Fisher has stepped down as chair and that the role has been filled by Sarah Mooney.

Lost/Found dogs – MK mentioned that the fortnightly e-mails were very helpful, especially as the reference numbers also on the council's tweets were helpful to cross reference found dogs. SC gave the following figures for the financial year 2014/15:

107 Stray dogs handed into LBWF.
47 dogs were reunited with owners, and on average held for 2.5 days.
39 dogs were rehomed , and on average held for 6 days.
21 dogs were PTS, and on average held for 8.5 days.

Breakdown added by SC 22.04.

- 10 PTS due to illegal breed
- 9 PTS due to aggression
- 2 PTS due to illness

Kitchener Road Report – a report was issued last autumn and the person has not had any communication from the DET. SC will personally contact the person who raised the complaint and will update us at the next meeting.

Lloyd Park

1) funding for better fencing has been found and a dual tech 868 fence will be installed within the next 4 weeks (could be as early as two weeks). SC will double check with the construction firm to ensure that the gates open to the inside of the fenced off area to avoid dogs from being able to push gates open and escape and to check that the fencing doesn't have the wide gaps as the current fencing has. The fencing will be 1.4m panels but buried into the ground, to avoid, tunnelling, and will stand at 1.25m above ground.

SC confirmed 22.04. that fencing will be as the photo (not height) and that the gates will close inwards, so no pushing out of fenced area possible.

2) there have been reports of council workers misinforming the public of which parts of Lloyds park are on/off lead. SC will contact the Chapel End and William Morris neighbourhood

teams to ensure that they are all aware of the DCO's. Since further information has come to light that it is not necessarily the Chapel End and William Morris Wards SC will will provide a briefing note for individual wards and their respective Cllr's regarding parks in their wards and what DC orders apply.

It was also raised that the Hillifield in the Park school are using the off lead park for their daily sports activities, and being surprised that an inquisitive dog may wonder over, and SC will speak to the school reiterating that the filed closest to them if off lead and that they could use the other field, which is dogs on lead.

3) Bin for enclosed off lead area - this has been requested in the autumn of 2015 and yet to materialise. CL called the necessary person and a bin is to be installed today.

Pet cemetery – following the discussion from the last meeting MK informed CL that of the members who voted 60% were against and 40% for a pet cemetery in LBWF.

Changing status of one park – during our AGM one member asked whether it was possible to change the status of St James' park to off lead (perhaps with certain time slots like early morning/early evening). We did not know whether this would require all DCO's being re-viewed (with public consultation, etc) or whether it is possible to just address, and possibly change, just one park. SC and CL will look into this and advise before any action will be taken.

DCO's in Epping Forest (COL) and Lea Valley Park (LVRPA) – there was a discussions how COL was working with LBWF and DET to simplify DCO's whilst that level of co-operation was not yet in place with LVRPA and that, in view of the Wetland project it would be a good idea for a closer co-operation between LBWF and LVRPA and CL will try and set up meeting and where DCO's are concerned invite WF4D.

DET – SC was pleased to confirm that all vacancies had been filled.

Microchipping – FSH asked whether there had been a large demand for the offer for free microchipping. SC confirmed there was steady request, and that the microchipping takes place at the dog owners' premise rather than at large events where dogs would be in stressful situations. When asked how the new rule would affect the owner of an unchipped dog. SC confirmed that if the owner was found they would be given the option to have the dog microchipped by DET or by their own vet and would have 21 days' notice to prove that the dog was chipped before a fine being issued.

AOB – FSH asked what information the council need when people report dog fouling or littering offences. It would be good for the council to receive details of location, any time patterns and any description. Photographs are not needed.