



Red House Park Friends Group
1st November 2010
General Meeting

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 19.00

1. Present

Bill Gunn (BG)
Keith Wild (KW)
Christine Horton (CH)
Lisa Ingram (LI)
Jean Jones (JJ)
Graham Carlin (GC)
Ray Wheatley SMBC (RW)
Sunish Patel SMBC (SP)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)
Helen Willets (HW)
Jackie Ward (JW)
Curtis David (CD)
Sandra
Robert Wheale (RWh)
June Richards (JR)
Beryl Bailey (BB)
John Causer (JC)
Robert Howes (RH)

2. Apologies.

. Apologies were received from Tony Ward via JJ

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were accepted as a true record

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising further to those to be covered by later items.

5. Chair's Report

- BG confirmed that British Military Fitness (BMF) are using the park on Mon and Weds evening and Sat AM
- SP confirmed that BMF have a key to Newton Rd/Pages Lane car park.

6. Secretary's Report

- LI has prepared proposed list of meeting dates for 2011. These were agreed and will be circulated with minutes. SP will arrange for display in park noticeboards.
- Authorised signatories list reflecting new appointments following AGM was submitted and signed. Copies to be circulated with minutes.
- LI asked for approval to order leaflets for Santa in the Park at a cost of £59 for 5000. It was agreed that LI arrange for 2500 copies and submit invoice to CH.



7. Treasurer's Report

- CH has received notification from Street Print that Red House leaflets are ready. These are to be shared between BG and CH for storage.
- CH has drafted a entry form for photography competition on advise from John Haines of Great Barr Photographic Society (GBPS) LI to review and send to John to approve.
- Proposals regarding refurbishment of changing rooms were circulated. It was agreed that internal dimensions of rooms were required to obtain better idea of space available.
- SP stated that intent was to hand over management of the community room to the friends group. Agreed that thought will be needed as to how this will be managed.
- CH has opened and circulated an electronic cash book record. This will be updated and distributed following each meeting.
- Anthony Lewis has forwarded a complaint ref Park Wardens from football team coach. CH will pass to SP for action.
- The residents of Red House Park Road approached CH with a request to attend the meeting following attendance at a forum where they were referred back to the group to advise on opposing development of Hill Lane site.
- It was agreed that a discussion could be held to advise the residents, however, the remit of the friends group does not cover this issue and that the residents would need to form a separate committee to fight any proposals. Main points of the discussion were as follows;
 - **CH asked SP to update the residents on the current position. It was stated that the site has not yet been sold but agreement had been made in a report to Ann Shackleton (Cabinet Member) to demolish to outbuildings to the rear of RHP and to develop both the house and the Hill Lane Site.**
 - **BG, JJ and KW attended a forum where a 3,000 name petition was submitted to oppose development of the house. There was subsequently an undertaking to retain the façade of the house but no undertakings in relation to Hill Lane.**
 - **There was confusion regarding both the line and the form of the boundaries. KW has queried this but outline plans are unclear. SP noted that the upcoming Green Flag application would suggest that any development will be “inkeeping” with the park.**
 - **Sandra asked SP the situation regarding Freedom of Information requests. It was suggested that these can either be sent to David Brown or via BG to Ann Shackleton.**
 - **JC suggested that a separate meeting was needed for residents and this was agreed as above.**
 - **JR queried parking provision for development, it is believed that demolition of outbuildings will provide for house. No information regarding Hill Lane.**
 - **RH queried the amount of flats that will be in house – this is not known but estimated at 6.**
 - **JJ suggested that residents contact Sadie Smith for further advice.**
 - **BG recommended that the residents elect a speaker to liaise with ward councillors on their behalf.**

8. Council Report

- SP circulated details of a monthly working group set up to tidy up the Park. This is managed and run by the Wildlife Trust and will work on clearing vegetation etc.
- SP confirmed that Santa event is covered by Councils Public Liability Insurance. Risk Assessment has been submitted. SP will review and feedback to LI.



- It was confirmed that extra litter bin was to be located in MUGA not Tennis Court as only one is available.
- SP has consulted with fisheries expert who has recommended that due to possibility of upsetting the balance of the pond and existing ecology a full survey must be carried out at a cost of approx £800 prior to re-stocking the ponds with fish. It was agreed that this cost was too high due to the possible negative outcome of the survey. To be voted on at next general meeting.
- SP expanded on idea of Friends managing the new community room He confirmed that income could be generated and that use would be covered by the Council Public Liability Insurance. Sp to obtain floor plans is available.

9. Use of the Park

No issues were arising.

10. Features of the Park

No issues were arising.

11. Park Environment

No issues were arising.

12. Sport and Play Facilities

No issues were arising.

13. Any Other Business

- GC asked, given the value of certain assets now held by the group, whether insurance should be taken out to cover loss/theft or damage. This was agreed.
- GC asked whether consideration should be given to the disposal of assets in the event of the dissolution of the group. It was agreed that this should be contained within the Constitution.
- It was suggested by LI that a review of Constitution form an agenda item at the next meeting to include the above point.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the 'Friends' Events Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on 15th November 2010 at 7 p.m.

The next General Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on 13th December 2010 at 7 p.m.