



Red House Park Friends Group
28th February 2011
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)
Graham Carlin (GC)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)
Mark Sanders (MS)
Tim Austin (TA) West Midlands Police
Tony Ward (TW)

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Sunish. TA was introduced to meeting. Tim is Acting Neighbourhood Sgt and is keen to build links with the group.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Proposed and approved as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

- There was a discussion regarding use of vouchers left over from Santa in the Park. It was agreed to donate to local groups. Vouchers were divided between pensioners groups at Tanhouse and Collingwood centres. SL will deliver to Collingwood and TA/TW to Tanhouse.
- There have been several muggings in the vicinity of the park recently. TA updated that arrests have been made in all of these cases.
- TA asked that all incidences of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) be reported to the ASB hotline on 0345 113 5000 Ext 79116370 as call volumes are low in comparison to anecdotal evidence.

5. Chair's Report

- Rose bed has now been prepared for planting which will take place on 13th March at 10am.
- There have been several articles regarding the development of the Red House in the Express and Star in the past week. Bill has been asked for comments for these articles and has stated that despite our best efforts we have had to accept the loss of the House as a community function.

6. Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report in this period.



7. Secretary's Report

- MS asked if ID badges could be provided to committee members, LI will draft for approval, this is ongoing..
- Photography competition leaflets have been copied and will be circulated to local secondary schools.

8. Council Report – LI on behalf of SP

- Start date for work to changing rooms is 21st March.
- Litter bins have been received and will be installed as soon as possible.

9. Use of the Park

No issues were arising.

10. Features of the Park

- MS asked if we could price replacement of conifers damaged by fire next to the MUGA. It was agreed that this was acceptable and process will be sought.
- Following the meeting Graham Jones has asked that the group be notified of an ongoing issue with damage to trees within the park. Anyone witnessing damage taking place should contact either the ASB hotline or the Park Rangers on 07850 013777.

11. Park Environment

- Cleanliness is good, no major issues.

12. Sport and Play Facilities

- It was confirmed that efforts of the group for 2011 would be concentrated on funding inclusive play equipment for disabled children. Enquiries will be made as to any external funding that may be available.
- Refurbishment of the Changing Rooms will commence 21st March.

13. Forthcoming Events

- Concerns were raised about viability of Wedding Party in April in terms of short lead time and number of members available to assist – **Post Meeting Note** It was subsequently decided at Events Meeting that we will be unable to hold this event for the reasons discussed.
- SL asked if the Band Day would take place again this year. SP will confirm. SP sent apologies to be raised again at April meeting

13. Any Other Business

- SL has obtained literature from a group called Friends of Hatherley Park who have instigated a public subscription system by requesting small donations. It was agreed that this could be looked into for funding of play equipment.
- TW agreed that alternative methods of funding will need to be explored due to budget constraints across the public sector. Tony will be looking into external funding opportunities for the group and will report back.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next General Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on Monday 11th April 2011 at 7 p.m.