



**Minutes of General Meeting held 9th July 2012
at the Red House Park Pavilion Community Room**

Chairman: Bill Gunn opened the Meeting at 19.00
Secretary: Lisa Saunders

1. **Attendance:** Bill Gunn (BG), Lisa Ingram (LI), Graham Carlin (GC)
Sunish Patel (SP), Ray Wheatley (RW), Sandra Lloyd (SL)
Sonia Vaughan (SV), Mark Sanders (MS), Martin Hewitt (MH)
2. **Apologies.** Christine Horton (CH), Jennie Dhanjal (JD)
3. **Minutes of Previous Minutes** as distributed were proposed and approved as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - Missed from last minutes was a note that BG asked for planting to be done at entrance to pavilion.
5. **Chair's Report**
 - BG missed the last neighbourhood forum, this was attended by RW but there was nothing to report to the group.
 - BG queried a report of an assault in the park, having looked at the details, MH believes this to be an old incident.
6. **Secretary's Report**
 - LI updated that we are still awaiting a decision on the funding application submitted in March/April. SP will chase again..
7. **Treasurer's Report**
 - CH sent apologies.
8. **Council/Police Report**
Council
 - SP informed the group that weather forecasts will need to be assessed in advance of the Paws in the Park event. If heavy rain continues the council may have to cancel. RW, SP, JD and LI will meet a week in advance of the event to assess.
 - Report had been received ref pool flooding – drainage has been sorted and should not be a problem in future.
 - LI asked for confirmation of requirements for first aid provision for Paws in the Park – SP is comfortable with 3/ 4 first aiders in first aid station
 - Walkie talkies to be provided by council for Paws in the Park, RW will supply ropes and stakes.
 - MH was asked to make the local officers aware of the potential for parking issues on the day.
 - MS chased delivery of fridge, SP stated that this is held but awaiting PAT testing.

Police

- There has been a re-org within the department and MH no longer covers this area having moved to Charlemont. Kim Jones is now covering this area 1 officer + 2 PSCOs each area . Backed up by Comm Action and Priorities Teams (CAPT).
- No crime has been recorded in park since May, there have been no calls for service since 22nd June – when a group of youths with bags were seen entering the park.
- An incident occurred whereby a pick-up truck was driven into one of the ponds, this was found to be part of a fraud attempt and not a theft.
- SV – had reported at neighbourhood meeting that some incidences of inappropriate behaviour regarding teenagers, these were not found to be serious.
- MH informed the group that incidences of scramblers etc in the park should be reported on 101 – sign to go in board in park to publicise this.

9. Red House Park Features of the Park

- The swans have produced 7 cygnets this year
- SL and MS queried installation of bat and bird boxes. This has been prohibitively expensive but may be resolved under the push for Green Flag status.

Park Environment

- All litter complaints should be sent to Serco. This can be done online via “Fix my Street” link on both the police and council website or by calling 0845 3597501
- Any issues of vandalism should be reported to ASB hotline on 0845 605 2222 or the Park Rangers on 0785 001 3777.
- Some work has been done to clear drains and avoid flooding.
- The steps between ponds have been renewed.
- Fallen trees have been removed.

Sport and Play Facilities

- MS has taken a booking for a childrens birthday party, he has also received an enquiry for a wedding reception but has responded to say the room is unsuitable.
- New play equipment paid for by council going in under 8s play area resurfacing is also taking place in the area.
- Procurement of the keep fit equipment is on-going

Park Diary

- Paws in the Park - MH will make enquiries as to whether there are any youths in breach of acceptable behaviour contracts that may be able to assist with litter picking.
- Bat Walk - 5th September
- Santa in the Park - 9th December

10. Any Other Business

- An events meeting will be held on Monday 6th August at 7pm in the Community Room.

11. Date of Next General Meeting

Monday 20th August 2012 starting at 7pm in the Community Room

Please note, all meetings of the Friends Group will take place in the Community Room located in the new Pavilion located near to the Pages Lane gate.