



Friends of Red House Park

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 11th November 2013

Venue: The Pavilion Red House Park Newton Road Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Chairs opening remarks:

BG opened the meeting and thanked all for their attendance.

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Bill Gunn (BG)	-	Chair
Lisa Ingram (LI)	-	Secretary
Christine Horton (CH)	-	Treasurer
Sunish Patel (SP)	-	SMBC
Sonia Vaughn (SV)		
Sandra Lloyd (SL)		
David Fisher (DF)		
Chris Worsey (CW)	-	On behalf of Steve Melia
Graham Jones (GJ)		
Keith Wild (KW)		

Apologies were received from; Steve Melia

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

- Accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes

- BG is still awaiting a contact ref purchase of rose bushes and hawthorn bushes. SP passed on number for Paul Reeves.
- BG has located the award referred to in the last minutes. This was presented to a former chair and secretary for their work on establishing the constitution of the group.

4. Reports:

i) Chair

- BG has received 3 complaints regarding the setting off of fireworks in the park over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period.
- BG has been approached by a member of the public who asked why the pavilion and toilets are not left open. It was explained that we have insufficient members to staff this.

- BG queried who now holds keys to the park, confirmed as follows – SV holds full set inc gates, GJ hold pavilion keys only. Police hold pavilion keys only. SV and GJ to retain their keys with Sgt Steve Knight being approached to enquire if police set are still needed.
- BG and SV are to attend the Sandwell Council Friends Forum on Tues 12th Nov.

ii) Secretary

- Booking forms for Santa event were passed to SP.
- Leaflets for the event are due for delivery this week and will be distributed to members by LI. Times for this year are 10.30 – 15.30
- Donut seller and small rides through Pat Collins have been booked.

iii) Treasurer

- Accounts have been submitted to audit today.
- There is a potential donation from the developer of the Hill Lane site that may be sent to the council for use by the group. SP to clarify with internal depts. At Council that, if this is forthcoming, it should be directed to the Friends.

iv) Council

- SP had no new issues to report
- SV and SL reported that when they opened the pavilion on 24th Oct the internal lights had been left on. SP will raise with gardener..

v) Police

- LI asked that e-mail contact for new local policing Sgt be forwarded.

5. Red House Park

i) Features of the Park

- Installation of bird boxes is still outstanding.

ii) Park Environment

- BG will contact Paul Reeves regarding purchase of roses and hawthorne bushes.
- SL and CH raised again the on-going problem of litter along Hill Lane. LI has some knowledge of Perspex sheeting being used to prevent litter access. LI to pass detail to SP.
- BG has been offered a donation of 2 additional recycling units. SP to liaise with Serco on the siting of these.
- CH queried if Serco are responsible for clearing of leaves on the paths surrounding the parks. SP confirmed that there is an on-going programme for this.
- SV queried if existing recycling bins are well and correctly used. SP is not aware of any problems.
- It was agreed that a bench to be sited on the memorial hill will be purchased by the group following the Santa event. SP will bring along brochures to next meeting.

iii) Sport and Play Facilities

- DF has removed fridge for recycling.
- SL is to purchase a kettle for use by the group.

- There was a discussion over whether the newly installed dish rbt is suitable for use by disabled children given the lack of a neck support. SP to look into.
- Some items belonging to the group have been moved into Holy Name stores due to the on-going damp issue. DF will fit a lock when Holy Name have finished relocating their stores.

iv) Park Diary.

- Santa event booked for Sunday 8th Dec.
- DF has arranged a free dog chipping event with The Dogs Trust from 13.00 – 16.00 on 22nd November. Jennie Dhanjal to be informed to assist with publicising through K9.

6. Any Other Business

- It was agreed that the group could not support the football event in the future.
- SV asked if the group could purchase 120 no tent pins for marking out arenas at a cost of £155, this was agreed.
- KW confirmed that his other commitments make it difficult to fulfil role as Vice Chair. KW proposed that DF take on this role and the nomination was carried.
- Thanks were extended to KW by the whole group for his efforts and commitment during his tenure as Vice Chair.
- Meadowside resident is still persisting in request for a key to Pages Lane gate but has again been refused by SP.
- GJ queried how late night fireworks should be reported, SP advised to do this via calling 101

7. Date of Next General Meeting –**19.00 Monday 16th December 2013**

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Ingram

Secretary FofRHP