

## Red House Park Friends Group

16<sup>th</sup> October 2006

### Meeting Notes

Sarah Carter, Chair, opened the meeting at 7.00p.m..

#### 1. Present

Sarah Carter, Chair	Glen and Dawn Williams
Jason Cross	Sonia Vaughan
Ray Wheatley	Jenny and Guy Hale
Cllr Tony Ward	Josh Bannister
Jean Jones	PC Hardwick 1850
John Ward	PC Canning 2127
Nabil Siddique	Christine Horton

#### 2. Apologies

Steve West  
Cllr Mary Wilson

#### 3. Provision of More Bins

SC said she had consulted David Brown about the funding of more bins in the Park. He said that the Friends Group have secured funding of £9000.00 from 'Neighbourhood Renewal'. It is not known how many bins including fitting this would pay for. It is suggested that they are needed round the lakes, outside the football changing rooms and round the Red House. Also more are needed down the 'Lime Walk'.

#### 4. Section 106B Funds

SC has tried to get an accurate figure from the Council as to the amount of 106 funds available for the Red House. Six months ago it was stated that 30,000.00 had been allotted to us from the 106B funds. Now Sarah has been told there is 19,000.00 in the fund. Cllr Tony Ward has promised he will get a true figure of the monies available and a breakdown of where the monies have come from and where they have been spent. The Friends Group would like the money to extend the play area to accommodate new activities, the most important item being swings for the older children, a slide and maybe another activity for the disabled. We have not been able to get any costs on these items so it is difficult to decide what we can afford

#### 5. The Red House

Cllr Ward has spoken in length to Bob Badham about the future of the house and there does not seem to have been any decisions made yet. Bob Badham said he had not received any proper 'Business Plans' for the House. SC gave Cllr Tony Ward a copy of The Barclays Sports Academy Application to show to Bob Badham. Sonia Vaughan has been looking into the historical value of the House. She has established that it is a Grade 2 listed building not Grade 2 \*. Its future would be better if it was Grade 2 \*. Sonia is trying to obtain a copy of the Deeds which are not registered with the Land Registry so we have to approach the Council. SV is not having much success to date but is pursuing all alternatives.

It has been decided to go ahead with distributing a letter to all residents in Great Barr to ask them to write direct to the Council to save the Red House. A draft copy of the letter will be brought to the next meeting and when agreed arrangements will be made to distribute these leaflets.

J C is trying to find out how old the Mulberry trees are. He has been in touch with the 'Woodland Society' and a meeting is going to take place to establish the age of the trees.

## **6. The Lake**

The Ramp has been finished and the area tidied up. The Council have said that there is funding for the railings and they will not have to use 106B monies.

## **7. The MUGA**

There is still an issue with flooding on the MUGA. Photos have been taken and will be sent to Steve West. It is now six months since the MUGA was finished so it is important to get the repairs done within the twelve month period.

## **8. Crime**

PC Hardwick and PC Canning attended the meeting and said that the crime offences in the Great Barr area have greatly reduced due to the increased police presence. The most common crime at the moment is that of motor vehicles. The police are applying for a Section 30 for the area which is the right to disperse crowds or groups of people

## **9. Any Other Business**

Cllr. Ward just made the point that the 'Band Day' needed something besides the Band i.e. an Ice Cream Stall or Tea and Coffee. This will be noted for the future.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 7 p.m. at the Training Centre, Hill Lane, Great Barr.