

Red House Park Friends Group
19th May 2008
Meeting Notes

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45p.m.

1. Present

Keith Wild	Eileen Wilkinson
Christine Horton	Ray Wheatley SMBC
Mark Sanders	Jean Jones
Graham Carlin	Nirmal Singh
Steve West SMBC	

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Sonia Vaughan, Stephanie Page and Cllr Tony Ward

3. Chairman's Report

Approval was given for minutes of the last meeting.

Bill reported to the meeting that he had been told there was no funding for the monument that was estimated to cost £15000.00. He was very concerned about this because the Council had said that the monument was top priority and repairs would be carried out after the Fun Day

4. Secretary's Report

CH reported that we had some replies to the letters the Council had sent out about peoples' level of interest in the park and the database has been updated with this information. CH said she would get copies of the 'Aims of the Group' to hand out on the Fun Day. Suggested changes to the Constitution have been sent to Carole for her approval.

5. Treasurer's Report

Graham said that the funds stand at £6052.57 including £107.00 interest.

6. Council Report

Steve West and David Brown have put together the application for repairs to the Tennis Courts to Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd. and the form has been submitted. It is estimated that the repairs will cost £55000.00 and if we do receive these monies someone has to put up ten per cent.

7. Use of the Park

The Group need to decide what needs to be added to the play area, at the moment the older children dominate the facilities, perhaps we could have swings that are more for toddlers and young children.

The Gates of the park have now been mended so one gate can be kept permanently closed so stopping cars coming into the park.

8. Forthcoming Events

Plans for the Fun Day are coming together. There are fourteen features and twenty six stands. There will be a beach and donkeys but the actual layout has yet to be decided which has delayed the printing of the programme.

A Car Boot is still being discussed and no date has been set.

A Band Concert is scheduled for 17th August 2.30p.m. to 5 p.m.

9. Features of the Park

There is no more news on the House. Plans are going ahead to paint the railings around the House in Hill Lane, the hedges have been cut in preparation.

10. Sport and Play Facilities

As mentioned previously in these minutes an application has been put forward for refurbishment of the tennis courts. If this application is not successful the Council have agreed to replace the nets and posts on all the courts.

The Group would like to formally invite David Brown to one of our meetings after the Fun Day and ask him if there is funding we can access for improvements to the Sports and Play facilities particularly the Changing Rooms which are used regularly by the local residents.

11. Any Other Business

The Group asked Ray to look into the Acacia Trees which have not been delivered but have been paid for last September.

Mark Sanders pointed out that there is a lack of signs in the area for Red House Park and he is going to contact the Council about this.

Mark is also going to look into the cost and feasibility of having signs in the Park about the items of interest i.e. the Mulberry Tree, details of the birds and ducks on the lakes.

The Red House Friends' Group would just like to say how sad they are to hear of the death of Steve West and would like to express their gratitude for all the help he has given us over the years.

The next meeting will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on Monday 7th July 2008 at 6.45 p.m.