

Red House Park Friends Group
26th January 2009
Meeting Notes

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45 p.m

1. Present

Bill Gunn	Ray Wheatley SMBC
Christine Horton	Sonia Vaughan
Keith Wild	Tony Potter SMBC
Jean Jones	Jackie Ward
Carole Calloway SMBC	Graham Carlin
Eileen Wilkinson	

2. Apologies.

Mark Sanders and Julie Neil

3. Chairmans' Report

The Minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

Bill told the Group that there would be a meeting of the Great Barr and Newton Community Forum on Thursday 5th February at the Tanhouse Centre at 10.30a.m. for anyone able to attend.

BG read out the e.mail that was sent to Anthea Rawlings of BCTV by someone who stated that he represented the Friends Group whereas he is not known by any of the Group. It was suggested that we advise Anthea that only Jean Jones and Bill will contact her from the 'Friends Group'

4. Treasurer's Report

The Group have just paid for the 'Interpretive Panel' that has been placed near the Pools which amounted to £1069.50.

Graham stated that the receipts for 'Santa in the Park' was £1032.61 and we spent £696.94 so giving a profit of £335.67.

5. Secretary's Report

CH explained that she has been through all the e.mail addresses that we distribute the Minutes to and has restricted the list to people agreed by the Group.

6. Council Report

The Council reported that the order has been placed to repair the Monument. They are currently waiting for a Structural Engineers Report before work can begin.

The nets are available for the Tennis Courts and will be put in place when the season starts.

Carole reported that there were plans to have a 'Big Spring Clean' to include all the parks from 29th February to 28th March. There will be notices giving details of this

Brief details were discussed of a 'Pathfinder Scheme' headed by Samantha Barratt .

There is funding available to improve current play areas or create new ones.

7. Park Environment

The Group brought the attention of the Council Representatives to the following two points. First the entrance to the park at Jeyshaw Avenue. When there has been a lot of rain the entrance floods and also the tarmac has broken up which is a dangerous surface

for the public. Secondly the logs and tree branches on the edge of the pool that needed clearing away have now been thrown back into the lake and need removing. Tony and Carol said that they would take the items back to the Office and report on them at the next meeting.

The roses are ready for planting and it was suggested that as many people as possible turn up on Sunday 1st February 11 a.m. to plant them

As I am writing this I can report that we planted 380 roses this morning and were very grateful for Ray's help with the planting and the tools and instructions. As we finished it started to snow!

8.. Forthcoming Events

The following events have been planned and we are waiting for confirmation.

- a) Car Boot – 26th April 2009.
- b) Fun Day – 28th June 2009.
- c) Bat Walk – 9th September 2009 7.15 p.m.

Santa in the Park was very successful, the profit made from the day is mentioned under the 'Treasurer's Report' Thank you Mark for being a very good and popular Father Christmas and to everyone else who helped on the day.

9. Any Other Business

It was reported that we have used up our supply of letterheads. Sonia said that she would look into the cost of replacing them either colour or black and white.

Jean Jones has drafted a leaflet advertising the 'Friends Group' and detailing our 'Aims' and 'Achievements'. This leaflet would be for distribution at all our events and put in places like the local library. It was suggested that Jean e.mail it to members for their thoughts and discussion at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the 'Friends' will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on Monday 9th March 2009