

Red House Park Friends Group
9th March 2009
Meeting Notes

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45 p.m

1. Present

Bill Gunn	Ray Wheatley SMBC
Christine Horton	Graham Carlin
Keith Wild	Helen Williams
Jean Jones	Julie Neil
Carole Calloway SMBC	Sonia Vaughan
Eileen Wilkinson	

2. Apologies.

Mark Sanders, Kay Alcock and Jackie Ward

3. Chairmans' Report

The Minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report

G.C. reported that we have just paid £290.00 for a replacement for the bench that was destroyed. Tony Potter has given us some information to help us work out a contingency cost in case of bad weather on the Funday.

5. Secretary's Report

CH had nothing to report

6. Council Report

Carole reported on information about the 'Big Spring Clean' and the 'Green Play Rangers'. Details given below under 'forthcoming events'

The Monument – Costs are to be rechecked and work will start in the Summer when the ground is harder to take the lorries.

Tennis Courts – All five courts are now fully equipped with nets and CH reported that on the first day the weather improved the courts were occupied. There is a need for litter bins around the tennis courts to reduce the rubbish, it was stated that 'street cleansing' would be responsible for this.

Sunish Patel has been promoted to Parks Facilities Manager – congratulations Sunish.

7. Park Environment

All broken branches and trees have been chopped and removed. Jean Jones thanked the Council for doing this and removing the rubbish after the snow sledging.

It was decided that we will provide more roses to complete the beds and these will be planted December to March 2010. The Group commented how much better the flower beds are now.

It was suggested that we make a list of the trees and shrubs that we have in the park and maybe put them on the web site. (to be discussed further)

There is now a Dog Warden in the Park and Carole said she would pass on some comments that have been received to the relevant department .

It was also requested that the Council ask the Contractors working in the Park to make sure the double gates are not left open to stop the cars coming in.

With all the sports facilities going on in the Park the Changing Rooms are a big issue and we need to sort out funds that we can access to improve them if possible. Keith Wild reported that 'Waste Management' has provided quite a lot of funds for Park Development – is this something we could look into.

8. Forthcoming Events

Carole reported that Holy Name School would be taking part in the 'Big Spring Clean' and would be litter picking in the park on Thursday 2nd April between 9.45 a.m and 11 a.m. It would be very good if we could link into this somehow.

The 'Green Play Rangers' will be in the Redhouse Park on Thursday 9th April and Friday 17th April with various activities including crafts and games. They will be situated outside the Red House. Further dates and times will be advertised.

The following dates are now confirmed

- a) Fun Day – 28th June 2009.
- b) Band Concert – 16th August 2009 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m
- c) Bat Walk – 9th September 2009 7.15 p.m.

It was suggested that we think about providing refreshments on the Band Day and we would also have to consider toilet facilities.

9. Any Other Business

Jean has handed out a draft leaflet advertising the 'Friends Group' for everyone to consider and report back. CH suggested that we include a section on the history of the park.

The next meeting of the 'Friends' will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on Monday 20th April at 6.45 p.m.