

Red House Park Friends Group
24th August 2009
Annual General Meeting

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45 p.m

1. Present

Bill Gunn	Ray Wheatley SMBC
Christine Horton	Sunish Patel SMBC
Jackie Ward	SoniaVaughan
Jean Jones	Graham Carlin
Julie and Steve Neil	
Keith Wild	

2. Apologies.

Mary Harding

3. Election of Officers

Bill thanked everyone for their hard work throughout the last year. All the officers retired and Sunish Patel took the meeting asking for nominations for the various offices.

The following officers were elected:

Bill Gunn	Chair
Keith Wild	Vice-Chairman
Christine Horton	Minute Secretary
Graham Carlin	Treasurer
Julie and Steve Neil	'Events Co-ordinators' (this is a new position)

Bill took up his position and asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes were duly accepted.

4. Chairmans' Report

Bill told the meeting that our approach to the SCVO had been successful. We have been granted £600.00 towards the cost of the bat detectors. These machines cost £74.00 each and it is estimated that we need fifteen which means the 'Friends' will undertake to pay the balance of £510.00. It was suggested that perhaps we could hire them out to recoup some of this cost.

5. Treasurers Report

Keith confirmed that he will make arrangements for the accounts to be audited.

6. Council Report and Environment

Bill thanked Sandwell Council for the repairs that have been carried out to the Monument. It looks very impressive. Sunish confirmed that the Council are proceeding with the plaque and an opening ceremony will be arranged when it is ready.

Sunish reported that a Tree Survey has been done and copies will be available.

A new waste bin and bench have been ordered and will be ready shortly.

The newly surfaced car park will be lined with parking spaces ready for September.

CH asked about the mess behind the fencing at the entrance on Hill Lane. Sunish

has since confirmed that these areas will be tidied up and the long term plan will be to demolish the additional buildings around the House. Also to tidy up the Changing Rooms and put facilities within these buildings for the community to use for meetings etc.

7. Events

The Band Day was a big success and of course the weather helped. The Bat Walk is planned for 9th September and posters have gone up.

'Christmas in the Park' is planned for 6th December but we do not have a Father Christmas at the moment. If we cannot find one within the next few weeks the event will have to be cancelled.

As the 'Dog Show' is so popular at the Fun Day it has been suggested that we could hold a 'Dog Jog' which has been very successful in other parks.

8. Any Other Business

We can apply to Sandwell Council for funding to produce our leaflets.

Also Bill has had 20 copies made of the History of the Park as we have sold out of all the copies we had. Julie explained that we are going to get quotes for the printing of the booklets when we have a proper electronic copy of the logo.

There will be an 'Events Meeting' on 21st September 09 at 7.15p.m

The next meeting of the 'Friends' will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on Monday 5th October at 6.45 p.m.

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