

Red House Park Friends Group  
11<sup>th</sup> January 2010  
General Meeting

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45 p.m

**1. Present**

Bill Gunn	Ray Wheatley SMBC
Christine Horton	Jean and Graham Jones
Jackie Ward	Mary Harding
Graham Carlin	Sandra Lloyd
Martin Baker	Tony Fowler
Helen Williams	

**2. Apologies.**

.Apologies were received from Sunish Patel.

**3. Chairmans' Report**

The Minutes were approved and there were no matters arising. Bill Gunn thanked everyone for their efforts at 'Santa in the Park' It was felt that partly due to the weather and also due to a lack of advertising there was not a very good attendance, which was a shame as it did look really effective with all the decorations. Bill pointed out that although he contacted three newspapers there was no mention of the event in the press. It is felt that next time we must endeavour to put larger adverts up and put leaflets through doors.

**4. Treasurers Report**

'Santa in the Park' made a small loss of £20.00

**5. Secretary's Report**

CH promised to send Martin and Sandra (two new members) the Agenda for 2010 and a copy of the November minutes giving details of the Council plans for Red House Park

**6. Council Report**

Sunish apologised for the not being able to attend the meeting but did send the following update from the parks department

- a) The council are trying to get timescales for line markings for the car park
- b) They now have some new litter bins and dog bins to replace some of the damaged ones around the site. These will be replaced within the next few months.
- c) The order for the plaque on the memorial has been raised and should be installed by the beginning of March due to lead-times for getting the stone.
- d) The tarmac to the main avenue will be started in the next couple of weeks.
- e) Poster board on the Newton road will be erected weather permitting in the next few weeks.
- f) Park Wardens have spoken to users of the park racing remote control cars within the Tennis courts and ripping down the nets in the process to enable

them to do so. If people are seen doing this please can you report to the Park wardens on 0121 552 4214.

- g) The capital funding discussed by David at the last meeting will be going forward to a meeting at the end of March.
- h) Pathfinder project scheduled to start in March.

## **7. Park Environment**

The Group reported that after the sledging activities had taken place there was piles of rubbish left behind and broken sledges abandoned in the frozen lake. Hopefully these can be cleared away. The Group would like to know if there can be something done about the constant flooding of the lakes sometimes it is not possible to walk round them.

Just before Christmas five of the Friends Group planted four hundred and thirty roses replenishing a complete 'bed' and replacing thirty roses that have been stolen. We are grateful to the Council for digging over the beds prior to planting it made the job a lot easier!

Each year we are slowly raising the money to replenish all the roses beds, we have put in over eleven hundred and hopefully after this years Fun Day we will be able to complete the task.

We would also like to bring up again the entrance to Red House Park at Newton Rd. During the freezing conditions, due to the lack of drainage the water froze and became an icing rink adding to the already dangerous path. It is unfortunate that the problem is just on the entrance so it is not possible to walk round it. We feel that it is a matter of urgency that something is done about it.

## **8. Forthcoming Events**

The Fun Day has been booked for Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2010

The Bat Walk has been booked for Wednesday September 8<sup>th</sup> 2010.

## **9. Any Other Business**

Work is due to start on repairs to the inside of the Red House

**The next meeting of the 'Friends' Events Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> February at 7.15 p.m.**

**The next General Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 at 6.45 p.m.**

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