

Red House Park Friends Group
22nd February 2010
General Meeting

Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 6.45 p.m

1. Present

Graham Jones	Sunish Patel SMBC
Ray Wheatley SMBC	Jackie Ward
Martin Baker	Helen Williams
Christine Horton	Sonia Vaughan
Bill Gunn	Keith Wild
Graham Carlin	Tony Ward

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Jean Jones

3. Chairmans' Report

The Minutes were approved and there were no matters arising. Bill reported that there was a meeting of the SCVO at the Public in West Bromwich on Tuesday 2nd March titled 'Working with Children' members of the 'Friends' had been invited. .
Carole Calloway has let the Group know about the 'Big Spring Clean' between 18th March 10 to 17th June 10 and would like to know if the Group want to get involved in the activities. Bill also told the Group about Michael Woodall (who is a fitness co-ordinator promoting a Healthy Lifestyle) and he has asked if he can come to the next Meeting to talk to the Group.

4. Treasurers Report

Keith suggested that at Fun Day we would endeavour to record income and expenses for each stall. CH said she would send some suggestions to Keith to be sent out with the floats for the stall holders to record this information.

5. Secretary's Report

Bill informed CJH that we had a new member. CH asked Bill if he could find out her full postal and e.mail address and we can then include her on our list to receive copies of the minutes.

6. Council Report

- a) The new pathfinder play area has been started.
- b) The line markings will put in the car park within the next two weeks.
- c) New litter bins and dog bins have been put in the park. It was pointed out that those installed near the Newton Road Entrance have not been put in properly – Sunish said he would attend to that
- d) New Poster Boards have been installed..
- e) The tarmacing has been completed at the Newton Road entrance and this does seem to have improved the flooding problems at the gate.
- f) Dog Fouling has become an issue in the park and the Wardens are trying to deal with it.
- g) There have been no further incidences of remote controlled cars on the Tennis Courts.
- h) The Group have asked Sunish to look into putting bins around the Tennis Courts to reduce the litter in that area. Sunish also said that

the Council were looking into the cost of providing steel nets.

i) The Council are going to install a new gate at the Monksfield entrance

7. Park Environment

The Council have done an excellent job of cleaning up the mess made by the sledging and the area looks considerable better. The Group asked Sunish if anything could be done about the overgrown vegetation on the paths around the pools. It was confirmed that this area is not part of the maintenance schedule carried out by the Council. Sunish said that he would see what could be done. It does stop people going from the top paths down to the pools for two reasons firstly a security issue and secondly because the old paths are too overgrown to walk on.

Ray confirmed to the Group that the Mulberry Tree had received some more structural support.

The House -Internal repairs which are needed because of vandalism and a leaking roof are being carried out at the moment.

The Group all commented what an impressive landmark the monument was.

8. Forthcoming Events

Fun Day – Sunday 27th June

BatWalk – Sept. 8th at 7p.m

9. Any Other Business

The Group have settled the account for the roses - £795.50 all monies raised through the Fun Days.

The next meeting of the 'Friends' Events Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on March 15 at 7.15 p.m.

The next General Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training centre on April 12th at 6.45 p.m.

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