

Red House Park Friends Goup
13th December 2010
General Meeting

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Bill Gunn Chair opened the Meeting at 7.00 p.m

1. Present

Bill Gunn	Sonia Vaughan
Keith Wild	Tony Ward
Christine Horton	John Ward
Jean Jones	Graham Carlin
Mark Sanders	Helen Willetts
Ray Wheatley SMBC	Sunish Patel SMBC
Sandra Lloyd	

2. Apologies.

. Apologies were received from Tony Fowler and Lisa Ingram

3. Chairman's Report

The Minutes were read and accepted and there were no matters arising. Bill thanked everyone involved in Father Christmas in the Park . He said he had received a lot of praise for Santa's Grotto. He also thanked Father Christmas and Mr. Fox. They were a great success with the children.

Bill also wanted to thank everyone who had distributed the leaflets advertising the event.

4. Treasurers Report

CH said that an income and expenditure account would be sent out when all the monies and expenses have come in. Sandra asked if thank you letters could be sent to the Manager of Somerfield Stores for allowing us to have a table and sell raffle tickets and also to the people who made donations to the day. CH said she would do this.

5. Secretary's Report

Lisa has sent her apologies

6. Council Report

The monthly clearance of the area around the pools organised by the Wild Life Trust is very successful and hopefully will continue over the coming months. Volunteers are welcomed to help in the clear up.

Details were distributed in the meeting of the area around the House that would be taken for the redevelopment. There is concern about the amount of land that would be involved.

Sunish said that an order had been placed for a new Gate at the Monksfield entry to the Park.

SP reported that the British Military Fitness Group had experienced trouble with youths when they were doing their workouts in the Park. SP informed the Group that the Police had been told.

SP showed the Group plans for the refurbishments to the Changing Rooms. It will include a Committee Room that will be fitted out with a small kitchen and storage area. There will also be access to toilets. It was suggested that the Stewardship

would be in the control of the Friends. SP said that these plans could take place within the first quarter of next year.

CH asked about the Bat Sign, SP explained that as soon as the Avian Survey has been completed this Sign would be reconsidered.

7. Use of the Park

No issues were arising

8. Features of the Park

RW. was asked to place an order for the roses. He said they could be planted anytime up to March.

8.. Forthcoming Events

Fun Day is to be discussed.

9. Park Environment and Facilities

Mark pointed out to SP that one of the bins had been vandalised to the extent that it was dangerous as it had jagged edges. It was decided that the Group would pay for a new bin (£280.00 exc delivery) and SP said that the Council would pay for it to be fitted. The Group also brought up the question of a new bin in the Tennis Courts for consideration by the Council

B.G also brought up the continuing issue of fencing the Park. It is felt that this would greatly increase the security.

10.Any Other Business

Tony Ward brought it to the attention of the Group that funds available to the Park in the future would be very limited because of the cuts the Council have to make. We have to be business like in our approach to obtaining money. T.W has said that he would look into funds that might be available to us. One of the suggestions was 'Landfill Tax'

The Group also discussed use of the funds raised. They asked SP to research disabled apparatus for older children.

Tony Ward explained to the Group that it is always better to hand ownership of the equipment over to the Council once purchased as they will then maintain and insure it for the future.

MS said that he would make some identity badges and it was also felt that the Group needed a 'card' printed that could be used by all to thank people for donations etc.

The next General Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee will be held at the Horticultural Training Centre on 17th January 2011 at 7 p.m.

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