



Red House Park Friends Group
15th August 2011
General Meeting

Bill Gunn - Chair opened the Meeting at 19.00

1. Present

Bill Gunn (BG)
Keith Wild (KW)
Lisa Ingram (LI)
Graham Carlin (GC)
Christine Horton (CH)
Sunish Patel (SP)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)
Lin Jenks (LJ)

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Jennie Dhanjal, David Brown, Tony Fowler and Ray Wheatley

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Proposed and approved as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

- Following on from the photography competition it was suggested that we may be able to use winning shots to produce greetings or postcards. David Hosell may be able to assist with funding?. This is to be discussed after Paws in the Park.

5. Chair's Report

- BG reminded the group that the next meeting on 26th September will be the AGM.
- BG queried installation of bird boxes SP has arranged liaison with Sandwell Valley ref locating boxes. SP asked for confirmation that that a metal front plate is included on the box.

6. Secretary's Report

- David Brown has updated the following;
 - A bat survey has confirmed no bats in House outbuildings, demolition due to begin end of August.
 - He is hoping to gain funding to re-fence the open side of the park at Hill Lane.
 - He is looking at funding to install outdoor gym equipment in the park.
- David had also asked that the Friends discuss the use and stewardship of the new community room. The following was agreed;
 - The Friends will take on the stewardship of the room. At present there will be no charge from the council, however should the room prove to be very successful utilities may be charged. This will be reviewed by SP on an annual basis.
 - Buildings insurance cover and weekly cleaning will be provided by the council. Contents insurance will be needed.
 - Employment of an hourly paid steward to be looked into.
 - Potential identified for sale of hot drinks on Sunday mornings during football season.



7. Treasurer's Report

- Floats are to be arranged for Paws in the Park.
- Following Paws in the Park the accounts will be sent to KW for checking prior to the AGM.

8. Council/Police Report

- Work to changing rooms is ongoing with a proposed handover date of end of August.
- The bat sign is still outstanding, SP will chase this up with David Brown.
- An open day for the new pavilion to be arranged.
- The rotten fencing at the Pages Lane gate will be replaced.
- Green Flag status is to be applied for in 2012. A park management plan is being prepared. SP asked for contact for John Haines to request photos of park for use in this.

9. Use of the Park

- No issues were arising

10. Features of the Park

- The bracket on the Mulberry has been made safe. SP has asked for a tree inspection on this
- Maintenance is still required on the paths around the ponds.

11. Park Environment

- The 6 cygnets are all doing well .
- Any issues of vandalism should be reported to ASB hotline or the Park Rangers on 07850 013777.
- Replacement of conifers will take place in the Autumn.

12. Sport and Play Facilities

- Football season is due to commence in next couple of weeks.
- The tennis courts are well used but are showing a build up of litter, it was agreed that there is a need for litter bins inside the courts. DH suggested that an approach be made to Serco for them to donate a bin. SP will look into any contractual implications of increasing the number of bins to be emptied.
- It was suggested that Sandwell Leisure Trust may be able to offer tennis coaching.

13. Forthcoming Events

- Dog Event to go ahead.
- Bat walk to go ahead
- DH may be able to provide opportunities for funding, he will update on this.

14. Any Other Business

- None

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next Events Meeting will be held on Mon 12th Sept at 7pm

The next AGM of the 'Friends' Committee will be held on Monday 26th Sept 2011 at 7pm

Please note all meetings will now take place in the Community Room – This is located in the new pavilion near to the Pages Lane gate.