



Friends of Red House Park

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 28th January 2013
Venue: The Pavilion Red House Park Newton Road Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Chairs opening remarks:

Mr Bill Gunn was unable to attend and sent apologies. Sunish Patel assumed the Chair in Bill's absence. Sunish explained that the meeting scheduled for Monday 17th December 2012 had been cancelled due to an electrical failure in the Pavillion.

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Sunish Patel (SP)	-	SMBC (Stand in Chair)
Keith Wild (KW)	-	Vice Chair
Lisa Ingram (LI)	-	Secretary
Christine Horton (CH)	-	Treasurer
Sandra Lloyd (SL)		
Sonia Vaughn (SV)		
Ray Wheatley (RW)		
Paul Gillam (PG)		
Karen Hall-Yates (KHY)		
Emma Hall-Yates (EHY)		

Apologies were received from; Bill Gunn (Chair), Steve Melia, David Fisher and Jennie Dhanjal

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

These were proposed and accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes

- LI requested that a slight change be made to the meeting schedule to bring forward the next meeting to 4th March. This was agreed and a new schedule will be sent out with minutes.
- SP is attempting to source a replacement for the fridge, if this is not possible one will be purchased by the council.
- Following investigation, SP has discovered that the fire extinguishers ordered for the Pavillion has been wrongly delivered to the training centre. SP is currently working to resolve this.
- Costs for the dish RBT have been confirmed at £3744 supplied and fitted by Streetscape, there is a potential for a further £100 cost for a post installation

inspection. This was deemed acceptable and SP will go ahead with placing the order. The Friends will be invoiced following installation. Thought is to be given to the placing of a plaque to recognise the funding of the equipment by the Friends.

- Possible dates were discussed for the official unveiling of the gym equipment – **Post meeting note – this has been booked for the Mayor's attendance at 11am on Monday 25th March 2013.**
- SP confirmed that he has responded in the negative to a local resident who had requested a key to access Pages Lane gate out of hours. The resident has appealed and SP will respond to this in due course.

4. Reports:

i) Chair

- BG has forwarded an invitation to the Friends Forum on Monday 11th February and asked that names of two representatives from the group be submitted to Carole Calloway. LI and SV agreed to attend.
Post meeting note – this meeting was cancelled due to snowfall.
- BG had invited Emma and Karen Hall-Yates to attend the meeting to discuss the possibility of siting a bench on top of monument hill. Emma had written to Bill to request that a bench be placed so that walkers could enjoy the view. This was generally agreed to be a good idea. SP will provide some costs and decision as to funding will be based on this.

ii) Secretary

- Steve Melia had provided some literature for the Unity Trust Scheme with regard to community bank accounts that may provide better interest rates than our current accounts, this was passed to CH.

iii) Treasurer

- CH confirmed that a profit of £120.73 was made on Santa in the Park and suggested that a Thank-you card be sent to Sam Saunders – a.k.a Santa, this was agreed.
- There are some outstanding cheques to be cashed and CH asked that this be done as soon as possible.
- CH updated that there is £5000 in accounts that can be used for park projects.

iv) Council

- SP informed the group that a resident of Pages Lane has asked for a short term loan of a gate key to enable a tree surgeon to access trees to the rear of her property. This was agreed.
- The trees received from the Woodland Trust have been planted in the wooded area to the rear of Grove Vale School. Tree thinning works have been carried out to trees around the ponds and wooded areas.
- Drain cleansing has now been carried out and will be monitored..
- A large amount of debris has been left over from recent sledging, SP will discuss this with Serco.
- There is an on-going issue with litter along the Hill Lane fence line – SP informed the meeting that this should be removed as part of a programmed deep clean.
- SV queried when issue of poor lighting around the Pavillion would be resolved, SP informs that this is in the forward schedule.

v) Police

- No representative from the Police was present.
5. Red House Park
- i) Features of the Park
 - There were no issues arising
 - ii) Park Environment
 - Tree planting and thinning has taken place.
 - With the exception of litter at Hill Lane and sledging debris, the park is clean and well used
 - iii) Sport and Play Facilities
 - A date is now agreed as 25th March for unveiling of gym equipment.
 - iv) Park Diary
 - Paul Gillam attended the meeting at the invitation of SP. PG has previously organised charity football tournaments at Aston University but would like to hold an event in the Park this year. This would involve approximately 24 teams and would be fully co-ordinated and run by PG. There would however, be an opportunity for the Friends to provide refreshments and take bookings for a small number of stalls and activities. It was agreed that we should collaborate on the event.
Post meeting note – date for this is proposed as Saturday 1st June
 - Summer event was discussed as commitment from K9 needs to be confirmed. LI stated that KJM agility have been provisionally booked for Sunday 18th August and this is likely to be date for a summer event in some form.
Post meeting note – K9 have confirmed commitment and we will hold an initial events meeting to discuss following general meeting on 4th March 2013.
6. Any Other Business
- No issues were raised.
7. Date of Next General Meeting
- **19.00 Monday 4th March 2013**
 - **An Events meeting will be held following the general meeting as above**

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Ingram

Secretary FofRHP