



Friends of Red House Park

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 30th September 2013
Venue: The Pavilion Red House Park Newton Road Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Chairs opening remarks:

Mr Bill Gunn welcomed the group and gave his thanks for the hard work put in by everyone over the past year. BG then handed over to SP for the nomination and election of committee members for the forthcoming year.

SP added his thanks and hopes that the group and the council can continue to work together for the improvement of the Park and the achievement of Green Flag status. SP then asked for nominations and elections were made as follows;

- BG was nominated by LI for position of Chair, this was not contested and BG agreed to stand again.
- LI was nominated by CH for position of Secretary, this was not contested and LI agreed to stand again.
- CH was nominated by SV for position of Treasurer, this was not contested and CH agreed to stand again.
- Keith Wild was not present and he will be approached outside of the meeting to determine if he is willing to stand again. DF is happy to take on the role of Vice Chair if Keith is unable to do so. This nomination was not contested and the role will be confirmed at the next meeting.

SP then handed back to BG for the rest of the meeting.

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Bill Gunn (BG)	-	Chair
Lisa Ingram (LI)	-	Secretary
Christine Horton (CH)	-	Treasurer
Sunish Patel (SP)	-	SMBC
Sonia Vaughn (SV)		
Sonia Lloyd (SL)		
David Fisher (DF)		
Sadie Smith (SS)		
Karen Fletcher (KF)		

Apologies were received from; Keith Wild, Jennie Dhanjal, Graham Jones

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

- Accepted as a true record.
3. Matters arising from those minutes
- LI has responded to the member of public whose dog was bitten at Paws event. The lady seems satisfied but has asked for an assurance that the act will not be used again and for confirmation of improved control measures. LI will update following discussions on Paws 2014.
 - Graham Jones suggested that a double row of stakes be erected around the arena and this seems a good solution.
 - The Meadowside resident who has requested a key to the Pages Lane gate has now raised the issue with Cllr Joyce Underwood. SP has reiterated our reasons for refusing the request.
 - Mark Sanders has forwarded a request for use of the Community Room for a Halloween party. SP will pass out for consideration.
4. Reports:
- i) Chair
- The Bat Walk attracted 46 people and a total of £42 was collected and handed over to Brum Bats.
 - BG has been approached by 2 members of the public regarding dog fouling in the park. It was generally agreed that this is an on-going problem. SP confirmed that this is a borough wide problem and that the best course of action is to note any repeat offenders and report to wardens.
- ii) Secretary
- Santa in the Park is scheduled for 8th December. SP asked for a booking form to be submitted asap and he will try to ensure that no football bookings are taken for that date.
 - SP is to provide LI with the contact number for a donut seller.
 - It was agreed that LI would contact Pat Collins and ask if they would like to site 2/3 small rides at their own risk on the date.
 - 2000 leaflets are to be ordered for distribution to local schools as in previous years.
- iii) Treasurer
- A summary of the annual accounts was circulated.
 - The annual accounts are now ready to be audited and will be passed to KW to arrange.
 - CH asked for approval to purchase a bottle of wine as a thank you to the auditor and this was agreed.
 - There has been an issue with groups booking the room but then failing to pay the agreed fee. In future all bookings must be made with cash up front.
 - £90 received from Health Walks is to be used to purchase rose bushes.
 - CH has been approached by Paul Gillam who would like to site a memorial bench in the Park. SP stated that this is not permitted under council regs and any benches must be purchased through the council.
- iv) Council
- SS queried why RHP was not on the recent list of People's Choice Parks. SP explained that this was for Green Flag parks only .

- There have been problems with alarms in the Red House over recent weeks. SV and CH confirmed that they had been aware but it was not a major nuisance. SP believes the problem is in hand.
- Lighting has now been erected in the car park however the settings may need to be altered as we approach Winter.

v) Police

- No representative from the Police was present.

5. Red House Park

i) Features of the Park

- DF noted that the bird boxes around the park have deteriorated, we have replacements in store but are unable to install without MEWP access.

ii) Park Environment

- 100 number roses and Hawthorn bushes to replace conifers are to be ordered. SP will ask Paul Reeves to confirm requirements and planting.
- SL and CH raised again the on-going problem of litter along Hill Lane. LI has some knowledge of Perspex sheeting being used to prevent litter access. LI to pass detail to SP.

iii) Sport and Play Facilities

- We have received thanks from Greg Piekarski on behalf of the users of the tennis courts for the speedy repair of the nets..
- Cricket season has now finished and football is underway.
- SS has seen a new cricket game designed for play on the MUGA. SP to look into if this is something that we could use..
- There is an on-going issue with the cleanliness of the toilets in the pavilion.

iv) Park Diary.

- Santa event booked for Sunday 8th Dec.

6. Any Other Business

- SV raised the issue that the connecting door from the community room to the toilets is often left open. SP to query if the gardener has a key to this door.
- There is an opportunity to share storage space with Holy Name in a separate locked room. The group will be issued with only one key and should look into whether insurance is required.
- Paul Gillam has asked is we would support the football tournament in future. This is to be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Date of Next General Meeting –**19.00 Monday 11th November 2013**

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Ingram

Secretary FofRHP