



Friends of Red House Park

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 18th May 2015
Venue: The Pavilion Red House Park Newton Road Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Chairs opening remarks:
BG was absent. DF to take chair and welcomed all.

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

David Fisher (DF)	-	Vice Chair
Christine Horton (CH)	-	Treasurer
Lisa Ingram (LI)	-	Secretary
Sonia Vaughn (SV)		
Sandra Lloyd (SL)		
Joe McNamara (JM)		
Graham Jones (GJ)		
Jackie Johnson (JJ)		

Apologies were received from Steve Melia, David Hosell, Bill Gunn and Sunish Patel

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Accepted as a true record

3. Matters arising from those minutes

- CH informed the meeting that she had visited the park during the recent fair and reported that it was very well run. All litter was cleared and minor damage caused to the gate was repaired promptly.
- It is not known whether the providers have confirmed provision for Paws in the Park. Sunish to be asked. Agreed that they be asked for a donation if they attend rather than a fixed fee.

4. Reports

i. Chair

- BG had asked that the issue of reduced parking caused by the development of the Red House be raised again. This is a particular concern with the approaching warmer weather.
- DF welcomed JJ as a new member.

ii. Secretary

- Steve Melia has contacted LI to inform her that he has been elected Town Lead for West Bromwich.
- LI announced that, regretfully, she will be stepping down from the position of Secretary and as a formal committee member as of the AGM on the 21st September. She will still be available for assistance at events.

iii. Treasurer

- CH informed that several purchases have been made for Paws that will also serve Santa event. To simplify the accounts, CH proposed that we report profits as a combined figure over both events rather than attempting to split cost. This was agreed.

iv. Council

- There was no council report.

5. Red House Park

i. Features of the Park

- The paths around the ponds have now been cleared and are looking much better.
- The path at the bottom of the hill close to rear of Fairyfield is breaking up and presenting a trip hazard.
- GJ informed that approximately 60 rose bushes have now been stolen/destroyed in the past 12 months.
- The requirement for a path joining the car park at Pages Lane to the main paved areas of the park was raised again. Once the Red House development has removed the car park at Hill Lane there will be severely reduced disabled access.
- There was some concern over whether the park signage on the main roads is clear enough to identify the car park entrance.

ii. Park Environment

- The gardener is leaving on 24th June, it is unclear whether he will be replaced. If the job is to be advertised the group would like to advertise the position on park noticeboards.
- The planted beds at the Newton Rd entrance are becoming overgrown with nettles.
- SL commented that the bushes along the fence line in Hill Lane are overgrown. It is unlikely that anything can be done about this until the end of bird nesting season.
- CH asked if we could use some of the funds in account to purchase daffodil and bluebell bulbs for planting in the autumn. This was agreed.

iii. Sports and Play Facilities

- SL reported that the matting in the play areas is lifting in places causing a trip hazard.

v. Park Diary

- Paws in the Park 2015 to take place 19th July
- Leaflets are to be ordered by SL/SV
- BG to be asked to make contact with Observer and/or Chronicle.
- Bat Walk is to take place on Wednesday 9th September

6. Any Other Business

Date of Next General Meeting - 19.00 Monday 10th August

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Ingram

Secretary FofRHP