



Friends of Red House Park

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 21st September 2015

Venue: The Pavilion, Red House Park, Newton Road, Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Chairs opening remarks: BG welcomed the Group and gave his thanks for the hard work put in by the 'Friends'. BG said that the Park looked very good largely due to the Group working closely with the Council and maintaining the Park to a high standard. We are still hoping to get Green Flag Status. Sunish confirmed that it is still the aim.

BG then handed over to SP for the nomination and election of committee members for the forthcoming year.

BG was nominated for the position of Chair and he agreed to stand again

D.F was nominated as Vice Chair and he agreed to stand again

Lisa Ingram resigned as Secretary

Christine Horton, Sandra Lloyd and Sonia Vaughan agreed to take on the position of Secretary between them

CH resigned as Treasurer

CH nominated Alethea Hegney as Treasurer and she agreed to stand

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

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Bill Gunn (BG)

Chair

Ed O'Neil (EO)

David Fisher (DF)

Vice Chair

Joe McNamara (JM)

Alethea Hegney (AH)

Treasurer

Christine Horton (CH)

Sunish Patel (SP)

SMBC

Julie Price SMBC

Sandra Lloyd (SL)

Graham Jones (GJ)

Tracy and Steven Shannon

Sarah Gorman (SG)

Apologies were received from; Lisa Ingram, Steve Melia, Sonia Vaughan and Jennie K9

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

In August there were not enough members attended to hold a meeting so there were no Minutes.

3. **No Matters Arising**

4. **Reports**

Vice - Chair. Julie Price who is the Local Community Officer attended the meeting but had an urgent appointment to go to.

DF took the opportunity to discuss funding available to us for improvements in the Park. JP provided us with a Form to apply for Local Area Funding.

Chair – BG asked SP if the meetings were still being held that invited all the officers of the local parks to attend. BG said he found these meetings very useful. SP said he would make enquiries

Secretary. – No report.

Treasurer – CH reported that it had not been possible to present the years accounts at the meeting because we had not received final figures from K9 for the funds from the Stallholders. As soon as these figures are to hand a set of accounts will be available to the Council and all members.

Council - SP confirmed that the Football Season is now in full swing. S.P also told the Group that a qualified Gardener had been appointed. CH asked if he would be available to give us some advice on various plantings in the Park that are on our wish list.

5. **Park Environment**

CH asked SP if it would be possible for the Council to prepare the ground ready for the Friends to plant sixty roses to replace those that have been stolen. Perhaps the Council could advise us of the roses purchased last time. CH said that the roses were bare rooted so should be planted in November or December.

GJ reported with concern at the state of the Lakes. He said he would take photographs of the lakes and send them to SP who reported that the Environment Agency were responsible for the maintenance of the Lakes and they are checked on a monthly basis. EO asked SP if he was sure this was being done. The algae on the surface has got out of hand this year and the pools would certainly benefit from being cleaned

Suggestions were made for the Bowling Green, amongst them

A Bowling Green

Table Tennis

Volley Ball

DF. suggested we ask the local residents what they would like the area to be used for. DF said he would put it on Facebook and ask people to come back to him with their suggestions.

6. Events

Father Christmas on Sunday 6th December 2015

7. Any Other Business

The Group voted to buy Lisa a voucher in recognition of the work she has done for 'The Friends' and we hope will continue to do so !

The Bat Walk was well attended, approximately one hundred and four people attended including the Cubs and Beavers. DF suggested that the Friends could do their own Bat Walk next year, perhaps holding it on a Friday evening bearing in mind that the children who attend have to go to school next day.

We are including the 'Friends Wish List' at the end of these Minutes and also an Action List which we intend to be part of the Minutes in the future

8. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 2nd November 2015

Wish List of the Friends of Red House Park

- a) History of House on a Plaque
- b) Plaque for Mulberry Tree and a fence around it
- c) Replacement Roses and Standard Roses
- d) Tarmac Path from Pavilion to Gate at Newton Rd and around the perimeter of the football pitches to the main path at the Red House for the use of the disabled, pushchairs, joggers and dog walkers
- e) Plaque on Rose Bed stating that 'The Friends raised the funds and planted the Roses'
- f) A Flag or Banner to advertise the Friends are in the Pavilion during a Fun Day etc.
During the 'Paws in the Park' the public did not know the Friends were providing refreshments in the Pavilion.
- g) Letters repainted on 'Keep off the Grass' notice by the roses

Action List

SP to put us in touch with someone from the Council who will advise us about the roses.

CH to prepare the end of year accounts and arrange for them to be audited.

Discussion and completion of the form provided by Julie Price

DF to put suggestions for Bowling Green on Facebook and request ideas from the public

DF to promote voting via Facebook regarding Skipton funding for the Group

EO to contact cub leaders to see about organising Community Service from Perry Barr for work to be done in the Park

Emails to be sent to Councillors inviting them to attend the meetings

SL to check Notice Boards and see if they have been cleaned and the old Notices removed.