



Friends of Red House Park

General Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday 18th January 2016

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

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Bill Gunn (BG)	Joe McNamara (JM)
David Fisher (DF)	Christine Horton (CH)
Sonia Vaughan (SV)	Andy Tromans (AT)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)	Steven Shannon (SS)
Graham Jones (GJ)	

Apologies were received from; Steve Melia ,Alethea Hegney and Sunish Patel

2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

Were accepted as a true record

3. No Matters Arising

4. Reports

Chair. – Bill Gunn wished all the Group a Happy New Year. He requested the Constitution be brought up to date with the names of the new committee members and this was done.

(BG) asked about the possibility of publishing an annual update newsletter giving the public details of what had been achieved during the year. It was pointed out that this could be done through the website which would be cheaper.

Vice-Chair – (DF) reported that The English Heritage will fund the plaque in the Park giving the history of the House. (DF) will forward the quote to them and complete the Application Form

(DF) also reported that he had given the details to the people who were interested in hiring the Community Room for Yoga but we have since heard they don't want it..

Secretary – No report

Treasurer – No report

5. Events

Paws in the Park 24th July 2016
Santa in the Park 11th December 2016

Unfortunately Lisa will not be available for Paws in the Park to run the Dog Shows but (DF) has agreed to take on the job.

6. **Environment** – DF said that he was concerned about the old oak tree in the park because people are lighting fires in the trunk. Also (GJ) expressed concerns about the Hornbeam Tree which is leaning badly over the bottom pool. (AT) said he would contact Steve Robinson who is in charge of trees. (GJ) also asked (AT) if it is possible to reuse any park wood for chippings to go on the paths.

7. Any Other Business.

(SL) reported that all the items have been bought for the Tombola at Paws in the Park and Christmas.

A request has been made from Elim Life Church to use the park on Sunday 27th March for an Easter Picnic and games. After consultation with Sunish this will not go ahead because it clashes with football already pre-booked by Sandwell MBC. Mary Morrison, Operations Manager at the Church will keep Sunish's contact details for future use.

8. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 29th February 2016

Action/Wish List of the Friends of Red House Park

1. History of House on a Plaque. – **Will be funded by the English Heritage**
2. Plaque for Mulberry Tree and a fence around it – **this has been referred to Property Services**
3. Replacement Roses and Standard Roses – **passed to Dave Lawley – Grounds Maintenance**

The Group understood that a Gardener had been employed by the Council. Would it be possible for him to attend one of our meetings to discuss the Rose Beds etc.

Plaque on Rose Bed stating that 'The Friends raised the funds and planted the Roses' **DF to organise this**

4. Regarding the tarmac path from the Pavilion to the Main Avenue Path. – **(AT) said that quotes had been received for various types of path and he would let us have the details.**
5. 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 . . **The Banner has been ordered**
6. Letters repainted on 'Keep off the Grass' notice by the roses. **DF to organise this when the weather permits.**
7. Alethea to send copy of signed accounts to Sunish and the Council. **Have these been sent?**

8. Discussion and completion of the form provided by Julie Price
**-After discussion the Group think funds obtained should be spent on the printing needed
Has the form been completed ?**
9. A Table Tennis Table has been suggested for the Bowling Green. **A quote has been received for the sum of £2437.00 plus VAT which amounts to £2924.40. After discussion within the Group it was felt that a Table Football would be more popular or goal posts for Five a Side Football. A cost of approximately £500.00 has been quoted for the goal posts. The Group have authorised (DF) to make a purchasing decision.**
10. EO gave a report on the Community Service. He said that he could arrange for them to attend one of our meetings and give us details of what they can do for us. **Ongoing**
11. Emails to be sent to Councillors inviting them to attend the meetings
Joe has sent these e-mails and will now follow them up.
12. Do we need to inform Skipton what we have spent their funds on ?
13. SL asked if it could be arranged for the cubs to have a small garden to cultivate wild flowers etc. Part of the Bowling Green could be used for this. **(EO) to contact Cub Leaders to attend a meeting to discuss future plans**
14. The Group noted that the lights outside the Community Room are sometimes on all night and at other random times. It has been established that there has been no police use since November. (SL) is going to monitor when the lights are left on. Also regarding the C.R. Andy Tromans checked the damp in the pavilion store room and the increased damp patch on the ceiling. He said he would get it checked out.
15. (JM) will speak to Ian Thorn at Planning regarding any '106' money which may be available for use at Red House Park.