



# Friends of Red House Park

## General Meeting Minutes

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> February 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)	Alethea Hegney (AH)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)	Sunish Patel (SP)
Graham Jones (GJ)	Ed O'Neil (EO)
Lynne Barlow	

Apologies were received from; Steve Melia

### 2. Minutes of the previous Meeting

Were accepted as a true record

### 3. No Matters Arising

### 4. Reports

**Chair.** – (BG) told the Group that as the Developer has said that he intends to start work on the new Development at the end of March, the pathway from the Community Room to the main Avenue is now a priority to enable disabled people to get around the park.

(BG) said that he has organised the Bat Walk for September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m. After discussion the Group decided that the takings would go to charity and it is possible that we might split the Bat Walk between one for the public and DF has volunteered to run one especially for the cubs .

**Vice-Chair** – (DF) gave the Group details of how the plaques could look that will be funded by The English Heritage Fund. The quote for the casing is £2300.00 and he is waiting for the quote from The Designer.

**Council** - (SP) reported that he would get the lights checked again. After discussion with the Group (SP) is going to look into the possibility that it is the Spectators for the Football that are coming through the Community Room to gain access to the Toilets, instead of going through the Changing Rooms and so causing the mess that is left.

**Secretary** – No Report

**Treasurer** - Alethea reported that we made one hundred pounds more than at Santa in the Park last year. The current balance of funds is £6500.00

## 5. Events

Paws in the Park	24 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
Santa in the Park	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2016
The Bat Walk	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2016

(SP) said that he has not received a Risk Assessment or a completed Booking Form for Paws  
(SP) also suggested that the Group enlist the help of Scout Volunteers at Paws in the Park to help on the day.

## 6. Environment – (SL) wanted to bring to the attention of the Council that the surface under the apparatus in the Play Areas was lifting and was dangerous. (SP) explained that a survey would take place shortly to check the condition of all the Play Areas and the equipment and this would be highlighted then.

(EO) introduced the Group to Lynne Barlow who explained how Community Payback works and can help the Friends Group. The team can do all sorts of jobs, including building work, path construction, clearing undergrowth etc. They will not get involved in contracts that are in place. They provide their own equipment and although they would prefer a room with toilets and somewhere to eat lunch they will bring their own porta loo. The risk assessment will be done by Lynne Barlow. (EO) asked how we move further with this. (LB) explained that we must e.mail a list of the jobs we would like done in the order of priority.

## 7. Any Other Business.

## 8. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 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. (See Reports)**
2. Plaque for Mulberry Tree and a fence around it – **This is pending until we know more about the the plans for the new development.**
3. Replacement Roses and Standard Roses – **passed to Dave Lawley – Grounds Maintenance (GJ) will email colours of the roses to (DL)**

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. **(SP) said this would be arranged and he would e.mail Darren Jones to find out the start date of the Gardener.**

Plaque on Rose Bed stating that ‘The Friends raised the funds and planted the Roses’  
**DF reported that he has got the Plaque.**

4. Regarding the path from the Pavilion to the main Avenue Path. **It has been decided that the surface should be tarmac. Julie Price is looking into applying for funding. As already mentioned, due to the new development this path is now urgent.**

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 . . **(DF) reported that he has got the Banner**
6. Letters repainted on 'Keep off the Grass' notice by the roses. **DF to organise this when the weather permits.**
7. Alethea has given a copy of the signed accounts to Sunish
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 for the Events. (DF) to submit the form to the Council**
9. The Group have decided to go with the Five a Side Football at an estimated cost of £500.00 for the Goal Posts. **(SP) said that he thought consultation should take place with the neighbours. (SL) said she had spoken to the immediate neighbours and there had been no objections. (SL) said she would consult with more neighbours and report the findings.**
10. Lynne Barlow attended our meeting and gave a report on Community Payback (see Environment) **The Group has to provide Lynne Barlow with a list of jobs we would like done in the order of priority. Already mentioned is clearing the areas around the pools and building raised beds for the cubs.**
11. Emails to be sent to Councillors inviting them to attend the meetings – **(JM) will continue to send these e-mails reminding the Councillors. Joe invited the Developer to the meetings but he was unable to come. (JM) suggested that he set up a short telephone conversation to ask him questions we need answers to.**
12. We have thanked the Skipton for the donation of £500.00. When the Group have confirmed what the money will be spent on the Friends will send pictures etc.
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. The Community Payback Scheme would be prepared to build the raised beds.**
14. Refer to the Council Report re the lights being on in the Community Room. **(SP) told the Group that he will get the lights checked again.**
15. (JM) will speak to Ian Thorn at Planning regarding any '106' money which may be available for use at Red House Park.