



# Friends of Red House Park

## General Meeting Minutes

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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

### Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Bill Gunn (BG)  
Sonia Vaughan (SV)  
Sandra Lloyd (SL)  
Christine Horton (CH)  
Dudley Hutchinson (DH)  
Joe McNamara (JM)

### Apologies were received from

Steve Melia, Dave Fisher, Ed O'Neil, Jean and Graham Jones

### Minutes of the previous meeting

Were accepted as a true record

### No Matters Arising

### Reports

**Chair** - (BG) wanted to know what was happening to the fencing particularly those that matched the pavilion.

(JM) stated that he had heard nothing further from Chris Worsey since his meeting with him about the pollution. He promised the Group that he would follow it up

**Vice Chair** No Report. (DF) has sent the risk assessment forms for Santa in the Park to a lady in the Council

**Secretary** - No Report

**Treasurer** – The Council have requested a statement of income and expenditure

**Council** - Nine thousand daffodils have been planted by Sonia and Roy. The Group are also grateful to the Gardener who has given us advice and help in planting the daffodils

**Events -** Preparations are being carried out for Santa in the Park on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016

**Environment.** The Group are waiting to hear if we can have a planter for the park (SV) has requested to know if there is still a regular ground maintenance regime in operation for the bottom end of the park and wooded areas

**Any Other Business** – We have purchased eight Walkie Talkies at a cost of £200.00  
The Group are concerned that we no longer have a member of the Council attend our meetings. The Friends agreed to contact Sunish and ask him what the current position is.

A request has been made by Sandwell Naturalists to do a moth count in the park. **To be discussed with Sunish**

**Next Meeting – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

## **ACTION/WISH LIST OF THE FRIENDS AND THE COUNCIL**

1. History of House on a plaque – Will be funded by the English Heritage – **ongoing**
2. The care of the Mulberry Tree has been passed to the Tree Gang
3. The Gardener is attending to the Roses and is currently pruning them.
4. Regarding the path from the Pavilion to the main Avenue Path. Julie Lees has e.mailed the Group with an update on the path. She said that the Council have started putting together a bid for the pathway and this will be submitted shortly. She has promised to update us when a decision is made. (SP) informed the group that the path will be wider than discussed previously to enable maintenance vehicles and events traffic access, for bin emptying etc. This would help avoid damage to the football pitches. **Waiting for information from the Council as to the current position of this path.**
5. The Group have given the Council the go ahead for the '5' A Side Goal Post on the bowling green.
6. (DF) agreed to notify Lynne Barlow that the job we would like done by the Community Payback is the clearing of the area around the pools and spinney.
7. (JM) will continue to have regular meetings with the Developers and will report back to the Group  
  
(JM) also told the Group that he would organise a meeting with the local councillors. Two of the dates for the coming year are arranged for a Tuesday (21<sup>st</sup> February and 16<sup>th</sup> May)
8. The garden for the Cubs to cultivate wild flowers and the position of this garden is still down for discussion.

9. The Group would like to retain the black fencing with the ball tops that match the pavilion fencing which is not required by Gr8space along Hill Lane and use it elsewhere in the Park. This needs to be confirmed with Sandwell MBC and Gr8space as soon as possible.
10. Currently work is going on at the Newton Road entrance to the park so hopefully this will solve the flooding
11. The surface of the children's play area is still lifting and is very dangerous. We understand this is a priority and the work has gone out to tender..
12. The notice boards need keeping up to date and repairing where necessary. It was mentioned at a previous meeting that the foggy Perspex would be replaced by Sandwell MBC This has been passed to Gary Bell
13. Repairs are needed to the surface of the Tennis Courts also the issue of the padlocked gates. These Courts are still being used in the winter so they do need to be in good order.
14. The Zip Wire still has not been repaired