



# Friends of Red House Park

## General Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
Venue: The Pavilion, Red House Park, Newton Road, Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

### Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Sonia Vaughan (SV)	Sunish Patel (SP)
Sandra Lloyd (SL)	Graham Jones (GJ)
Christine Horton (CH)	Bill Gunn (BSG)
Keith Wild	Alethea Hegney (AH)
Joe McNamara(JM)	

**Apologies** were received from: Steve Melia, Julie Lees, David Fisher

### Minutes of the previous meeting

Were accepted as a true record

### No Matters Arising

### Reports

**Chair** - (BG) asked (SP) if he could get six up to date copies of the Constitution so that they can be distributed at the Annual General Meeting

**Vice Chair** - Sent his apologies

**Secretary** - Nothing to Report

**Treasurer** – Alethea reported that she had emailed the bank statement David wanted and had a paper copy if he needed one

**Council** – (SP) asked for a report on the Fun Fair that took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May. (SL) told the Group that she was disappointed that the lorries had run over the roots of the old tree outside the Red House. (SP) said that he would send someone to check on any damage that may have been done. Also the gate at the Hill Lane entrance had been left open all night. Sunish will review the fair and gate security for next year. After the Meeting (SP) contacted the Fair people and they have agreed to repair the damage done to the grass. Helga Lutz is now responsible for park security

**Events** Bat Walk – date and details to be confirmed

Moth Count – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Event 27<sup>th</sup> August – details to be confirmed  
(SP) requested that the booking forms etc could be completed for these events and forwarded to him

**Environment** (SV) thanked Sunish for moving the top soil for the goal posts, it created three more parking spaces

There is some uncertainty whether the pool is still being polluted. (SV) suggested that we contact Severn Trent and ask them to analyse a sample of the water. (SV) will provide (SP) with the latest contact for Severn Trent and (SP) will deal with it.

Severn Trent have been seen flushing out sewers that lead to the pool and have confirmed they flush them out three or four times a year

Joe commented how fabulous the Daffodils looked.

#### **Any Other Business**

(SL) reported that she had seen a quad bike going round the park and riding round the Bowling Green. She did alert the Rangers but no-one came. If we do see Quad Bikes in the park the police are keen to know about them too.

(SL) asked that the printing for the summer event be done before 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**Next Meeting – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the Pavilion.**

### **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 plan is still to replace the old roses and rejuvenate the rose beds. Sunish said it was under discussion. The list of rose varieties already planted have been lost but since the meeting (SV) has identified what is planted in five of the seven rose beds. These are ‘iceberg (white) ‘Fragrant Delight’ (copper orange) ‘Trumpeteer’ (red) Arthur Bell (yellow) and Amber Queen (amber yellow) If the Council prepare the beds the Friends would be willing to plant the roses
4. Sunish confirmed that the plans for the main avenue path had been abandoned and it had been decided to make the disabled parking next to the house. It was agreed by the Group to pursue all possibilities to get the path installed.
5. The Five a Side Posts will be welded into the ground and will hopefully be ready by Half Term  
**COUNCIL ACTION NEEDED**
6. The Group felt that the Community Payback plans will be put on hold at the moment.
7. (JM) has organised another meeting with the developer on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017
8. Since the meeting Andy Tromans has been round the Park with members of the Friends Group. He noted the suggested places for the fencing and said that five bins needed replacing, several needed repairing and some could be re-sited - **Ongoing**

- 9 The surface of the children's play area is still lifting and is considered dangerous by the Friends but the Council consider this to be low risk. This work has gone out to tender . **Ongoing .....**
- 10 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 and they are now being attended to. **Ongoing .....**
- 12 Repairs have been carried out to the surface of the tennis courts and the gates unlocked.. **The Line marking is still to be done**
13. The large tree outside the house is surrounded with a planter made of slabs, some of which are falling away and need putting back. **STILL TO BE DONE**