



Friends of Red House Park

Minutes of the General Meeting

Date: Monday 5th March 2018
Venue: The Pavilion, Red House Park, Newton Road, Great Barr, starting at 7.00pm

Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Sandra Lloyd.	Alethea Hegney
David Fisher	Suki Gill
Christine Horton	Gurdyal Gandham
Sonia Vaughan	Joe McNamara

Apologies were received from. Darryl Magher , Bill Gunn, Steve Melia

Minutes of the previous meeting

Were accepted as a true record

Matters Arising

No matters arising

Reports

Chair - There is no report from Bill Gunn

Vice Chair - (DF) told the Group that the chimneys have been taken from the Development Site and are in safe keeping. The Council and the Friends of Red House Park know of their whereabouts. It is the intention of the Group to discuss what should happen to them at the next meeting (SV) told the Group that some are damaged.

Secretary - A member of the public showed the Group photos of the flower beds that she had taken over the last fifty years. They were very interested She said that she was very sad that we had lost most of the flower Beds. (CH) explained that a lot of effort is being made to maintain the plantings in the park even though there are restrictions in staff and money.

Treasurer - (AH) told the Group that she was completing the accounts and they will be ready for the next meeting.

Diary – Events to come

Santa in the Park 9th December 2018

Bat Walk – 10th September and 17th September

Any Other Business – (SL) told the Group that the little gate in Hill Lane was still locked even though it was supposed to be opened some time ago. The big gates have both been left open although one of them must be locked to stop unauthorised vehicles from entering the park

A suggestion was made to promote the planting of saplings to mark personal occasions i.e. memorial or celebrations. This would have to be closely monitored.

(JM) reported that he was trying to contact the Developer regarding a donation to the park and will report back to the Group when he had done so.

At the last meeting Steve Miele suggested that there was currently a pot of money that may be available to fund some of the smaller projects. (SV) said she would email him and ask him how we can access the funds

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY 10th APRIL 2018

POOLS:

Severn Trent have taken a further water test sample and although slightly higher than last time it is still considered to be a low reading
No toilet waste was observed. They will be re-attending with the CCTV Van to complete the survey of local sewers when the weather permits.

DISABLED PATHWAY:

Construction of this path is being priced up and it is proposed to carry out the work in Spring 2018.
Discussion took place within the Group about a small pathway being put between car park in Hill Lane and the Play Areas. Although some members feel we don't need any more paths it was pointed out that people are walking back and for on this area anyway.

TENNIS COURTS: The Poplar Tree hasn't been removed as yet. (SV) is going to contact John Satchwell for an update

FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL GOAL POSTS: One has been welded in, the other is fixed but not welded

ZIP WIRE: Still waiting for parts

NOTICE BOARDS: New Perspex now in stock and the old will be replaced as soon as possible
The Group are sorting out access to the Notice Boards so we can put items of interest in them including a map of the park.

BEDS: Darren Jones is redesigning the rose bed area and will liaise with the Friends when he has done so and before moving forward with any planting. (SV) will email him for any updates. One will be adopted by the Friends for plants of their choice

DEAD BOX TREES: These will be removed by the Gardening Gang

WOODLAND GROUND MAINTENANCE. It is suggested that the area be cleared and then we wait to see what grows before any further clearance is carried out. The Group put forward many suggestions for the area including plants and wildlife. Hedgehogs, owls, birds etc. could be introduced to the area. Ideas are to be discussed in future meetings as work progresses.

We have asked for a copy of any tree surveys from D. Jones to give us some idea as to what species we have in the park. (SV) is going to send a reminder and is also going to ask about the Hornbeam and any update of the meeting between the Council and the Contractors

BINS. All done except one which the Council will do.

DAMP – The Property Maintenance Team have been asked what is being done about the problem

LITTER – John Satchwell will put notices in the Football Changing Rooms about the litter

The Group were very pleased that John Satchwell has reported that the application has now gone in for Green Flag Status