

Meeting: Friends of Hilly Fields  
Minutes of Meeting 10 December 2013

Present: Rachel Mooney (Chair), Helen Mercer (Joint Secretary), Tom Moulton (Joint Secretary), Wayne Dyer (Glendale), Luke Shacklock (Glendale), Fred Harding, Keith Ward, Alex Berka, Symon Knightswood.

Apologies: Andrew Harper

1. Minutes of Last meeting – agreed
2. **General Maintenance and Park Furniture**

The following issues were discussed:

Issue	Details	Date noted	Completed end date
Cycle racks	13 additional racks installed. Fred stopped another 8. Non were required, having had new racks earlier in year. Highways Department responsible and they installed without informing GreenScene. J Thompson has told them to remove all.	10/12/13	
Tennis Courts sign	Requested possibility and price for sign as at Telegraph Hill Park re: not hogging courts. <b>Glendale</b> to chase supplier for price.	1 <sup>st</sup> request by email 21-1-13. Followed up 17-6-13 on site and 11-6-13 meeting 10-9-13 meeting 10-12-13 meeting	
Grass cutting	Timing To be covered at meeting with Green Scene	Ongoing	
Benches – failure to consult with Friends over style, position or plans for bespoke park bench	More benches not even complying with criteria that GreenScene (unilaterally) approved in September 2012 To be covered at meeting with GreenScene	Ongoing since 1-10-07 12-12 mtg: F Gavin agreed to consult over positions 11-6.13 Noted no consultation 10-9-13 noted a bench costs approx £500 which is paid to Glendale	
Lighting new columns in park	No response to queries re sensor activation, lighting of basketball hoops to extend hours of play, option for grey colour or whether signage for park could be printed on them. Conservation Lewisham did a report re places for heritage lighting – Symon trying to get a copy.	Initial enquiry May 2013 10.9.13  Via Skanska contact not Lewisham. Greenscene don't seem to have any say  Only info given is that they are black & taller than existing & is a PFI	
Table tennis table	Site increasingly muddy at both ends, so play difficult. Requested woodchip/sand fill to level as interim measure. Also requested price for installing matta.  <b>10.12.13</b> Glendale have put down bark discussion on whether long term would be better to have table on tarmac or move elsewhere?  All to consider. Rachel to ask F Gavin if spare table available	12.03.13 requested cost of Matta for ends of table. 11.6.13 – Glendale to cost Matta surfacing 10.9.13 – No costing available.  Glendale will put down bark as temporary measure. 10.12.13	RM got cost with 10 year guarantees it is a staggering £ 67/m2) So that would be £2K for the larger area, could get away with £ 1,300. Would be interested if Glendale could get cheaper price.  <i>POST MEETING: Glendale have put down bark and it had improved site. (needs to be ongoing maintenance)</i>
Tennis Courts	Damage to netting in the corner near the cafe. Friends suggest repairing now would save on a more expensive job later. Moss on tennis courts.	10.9.13 10.12.13 – is on Glendale maintenance list – Wayne to talk to Chris Thompson	
Missing fixings on railings to shade garden	Railing was taken out when cable dug for portacabin, they left cable tie holding the railing.	11.6.13 reported in meeting 10.9.13 reported in meeting	10.12.13 Repaired

Litter bins	Inappropriate for level of litter and given activities of foxes and crows Raise at meeting with J Thompson	10/09/13 10.12.13	
Tree maintenance	Friends had met Angus to ensure fallen tree could be left with challenging climbing and other timber would be left in park. (wanted this as a park policy for all fallen trees) Vicars Hill – need to pick litter along railing Alex Berka: owns property top of Vicars Hill Plane tree cut down because of subsidence Saplings now shooting up & cld, get same problem Agreed Alex/Friends reps/Wayne to meet in situ & find solution to suit all parties	10.12.13 10.12.13	
Playground - maintenance	Thistles, nettles and some brambles are growing in the shrub bed at bottom of playground	10.9.13 10.12.13 – was not on Glendale's maintenance list but is now	
Playground – timberwork & mounding	Timber seating area, boards rotten where ran into grass. Excavated tarmac and brick is exposed in the mounding	10.9.13 10.12.13 – timberwork replaced & mounding repaired	DONE
Bowls club – hedge trimming	Failure to cut hedge on far side	10.9.13 10.12.13 – been cut & to be revisited on 20.12.13	cut December 2013
Tree stump	Tree stump be ground out in portacabin area	Pointed out during visit, including Green Flag visit in June? 10/12/13	

### 3. Prendergast cabins and building work

Portacabins have gone. Have till end of Jan to return to original state. Glendale to look into seeding poppy seeds. Ask Prendergast & Costain to make good damage to Eastern Rd by school. Two trees were felled – hornbeam – these need replacing. Friends need to discuss this with Costain/Greenscene? Would this be suitable site for extending area of edible hedging?

Section 106 money: the planning information confirms that there was no requirement for this to be spent on footpath repairs. Friends have a list for discussion, includes, two tree swings (have London Play design just need to confirm with tree officer). Look into cost of repair to stone circle.

4. **Green Fair** – very positive feedback. Experience gained in erecting marquees without instructions. Heavy rain at start & finish but good weather for most part. Consider repeating. Consider purchase of larger marquee.

### 5. Park Events and Activities

- i. - Big Birdwatch – 26 January, 11.00-2.00. Lee has lard in fridge. Get birdseed from Glendale.
- ii. - Orchard wassail – look for a Sunday 4.30 start. Ask Charlie & Andrew to provide music.
- iii. - Bulb planting – Rachel had applied for bulbs from the MPGA, they were being delivered and Rachel to organise before Christmas.
- iv. - Forest school day – Rachel has applied for another grant for a 'wild play day', she has planned this with Chelwood. It would be open to all, but is being run on a school day, so that they can work with the Chelwood House Families. Cafe to provide hot drinks. Glendale agreed that they could have a fire if all safety issues are passed. The new park by-laws will prohibit fires in park. Friends think this is a shame.
- v. - Memorial tree for Keith - Rowan tree, agree site, plant January. Requested price for tree from Glendale. Also requested if they could prepare the planting hole and stakes (10/09/13).

### 6. Development Plan

- Orchard maintenance & fruiting hedge. Maintenance sessions held. London Orchard Project are providing replacements in Jan for the diseased apple & vandalised pear
- Octavia Hill memorial garden. Veolia funding grant unsuccessful. Rachel will circulate details of the proposal. RM/TM/SK will meet in Shade Garden to discuss development.
- Tree strategy – to be discussed at J Thompson meeting.
- Update of masterplan – nothing further.
- Symon to pursue with Colm proposal/quote for fox-proof wooden litter bin cover

### 7. Bird Champion Update

Monthly surveys continuing, HF Birdwatch blog updated every month <http://hillyfields.blogspot.co.uk/> Willow warbler seen for first time end of Sept = 42<sup>nd</sup> bird on list. SK reported crows have 'buzzed' his dog.

8. **Dog issues** – no known problems apart from fouling.
9. **Cricket club** – felt that the club could be more inclusive. Rachel has followed up comments from others and spoken to Paul Harper (Glendale Sports Development) who will follow this up with Millfields. He also confirmed there was a second team playing at Hilly Fields.
10. **Cafe update** - Fred reported attempted break-in via cafe roof on 1 December, 1.15 am. Perpetrator then returned after Fred had fixed damage and attempted further break-in. Roof membrane has been damaged. Nothing is kept in the cafe over night.

There has been complaint from park user that the toilets were not kept clean enough. Greenscene had followed this up and found them to be satisfactory. Difficult to keep the toilets as clean as those inane ordinary cafe, as they were used as public toilets.

11. **Bowls Club** – no feedback.
12. **AOB.**
  - 30 metres of hedging offered by Nicola Ferguson seems to have gone elsewhere. TM/RM will check position.
  - Friends notice board – ask for it to be moved. Symon to produce signage for it which can be painted on wood.
  - £700 from Grant to pay for new signage at top Vicars Hill entrance
  - National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS). Symon attended London meeting. Interest in setting up Lewisham Forum – HF, TH Park, Chinbrook, Home Park, Syd Wells, Mayow...Councillor Susan Wise has cabinet responsibility for customer services which includes parks.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 11 MARCH 2014 at 7.30pm in cafe**

**NEXT EVENT...THE BIG BIRD WATCH. Sunday 26th January from 11am until 2pm.**