

## Minutes of Friends of Hilly Fields Open Meeting: 9 June 2015

1. Present: Rachel Mooney (Chair, Andrew Harper (Treasurer), Marcus Fox, Mandeep Bhogal, Akan Rustom, Symon Knightswood, , Wayne Dyer (Glendale), Keith Ward, Frances Ward,

2. Apologies: Tom Moulton, Ruth Meaney, Helen Mercer, Jeanette Singer , Mick Singer

### 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

3.1 Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

### 4. Shared Access

4.1 Shared access had not sent the requested photos showing how the antenna mast could be disguised. On wider discussion post meeting, there had been queries about health issues created by masts.

		<b>Action:</b>	
5.	<u>General Maintenance and Park Furniture</u>		
5.1	Signage: lack of signs had been raised a previous Green Flag report. RM had asked Skanska if we could paint directions on the lamp columns. They had not replied. Discussed directions such as café, WC, stone circle, tennis courts, playground. Resident had offered to paint if we got the stencil arranged.	RM	
5.2	Table tennis table: had not found any further grants specifically for table tennis table. Thought that it could be added to a larger grant application, which intend to look into.	<b>RM</b>	
5.3	Basketball.Tennis Court fencing: all holes are now repaired.	<b>Done May 2015</b>	
	Had been agreed to do line markings when weather was dry. Is this in hand?	<b>Request 2014 Glendale</b>	
5.4	New Noticeboard: MPGA said they did not fund notice boards. RM showed board from Mountsfield Park, they had grant from neighbourhood fund, the board had been around £2K. not including installation.		
5.5	Playground maintenance: WD and RM had not met on site. Ladder still worn. Water fountain was switched on but after Easter. <i>Pirate ship wooden border needs repair.</i> ADDITIONALLY: bark to be topped up and equipment needs new coat of paint.	<b>WD/RM Meeting still to be arranged</b>	
5.6	OS Trig Point: post last discussion, thought the trig point might have information about its purpose painted on, need to look at design for this.	<b>RM/SK</b>	
5.7	Trees: <i>the Friends requested that a <b>one metre diameter</b></i>	<b>WD</b>	

	<p><i>unmown ring is left around all trees to prevent damage by mowers. Wayne agreed to arrange.</i></p> <p>Prior to the Green Flag visit heavy mowing had damaged base of trees again. On path from Vicars Hill to café 10 trees had bark damage at base from mowing. RM had pointed this out to Darren Budden during the visit. Briefly the grass was left around a few trees, but not all. Further damage was done this week to the large London Planes on Hilly Fields Crescent.</p> <p>We been requesting this change for a number of years, nearly every new tree planted without a cage has been killed by Glendale's maintenance.</p>																																			
5.8	<p>RM to mark up new trees planted by Friends or with agreement of , and send to Tree section for updating of the Tree Plan. TM to edit the Friends Tree Strategy.</p>	RM/TM																																		
<b>6.</b>	<b>Portakabin and Section 106</b>																																			
6.1	<p>RM had some prices for allocation of section 106 money. Will get installation costs on preferred items. A-frame swing, balance rope and sit up benches favoured.</p>																																			
6.2	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th> <th>Price</th> <th>Notes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>cross over (setts) at green gate</td> <td>£8K</td> <td>But job too small for Co and suspect therefore high quote</td> </tr> <tr> <td>work to the shade garden eg. new gates</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>tree swings</td> <td>£500</td> <td>Inc fixings (last yrs price)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>stone circle replacement all three stones and re carving:</td> <td>£8K</td> <td>Old quote from stone mason</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Basket swing – A frame</td> <td>£2.1K</td> <td>Supply only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cantilever swing</td> <td>£2,350</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>sit up bench (oak and stainless)</td> <td>£475</td> <td>'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pull up bars</td> <td>£370</td> <td>'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dip bars</td> <td>£290</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance rope</td> <td>£370</td> <td>"</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEM	Price	Notes	cross over (setts) at green gate	£8K	But job too small for Co and suspect therefore high quote	work to the shade garden eg. new gates			tree swings	£500	Inc fixings (last yrs price)	stone circle replacement all three stones and re carving:	£8K	Old quote from stone mason	Basket swing – A frame	£2.1K	Supply only	Cantilever swing	£2,350	"	sit up bench (oak and stainless)	£475	'	Pull up bars	£370	'	Dip bars	£290	"	Balance rope	£370	"		
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6.3	<p>Previous discussions had favoured any new equipment being sited outside the playground as it was very busy and the open space was well used. Would also make it more easily available for everyone to use. Suggestions were close to fallen poplar tree at top of hill and on area to south/across from path of trim trail equipment.</p>	RM																																		

<b>7.</b>	<b><u>Park Events and Activities</u></b>		
7.1	Feedback from Botton's Fair had been positive. He had done exactly what was agreed, keeping within the time and left without any damage. Café thought that it had brought some new people to the park and many said it was good to have something happening locally. Agreed that we would be happy to have annually. Botton's have also kindly donated £500 towards the Friends Group.		
7.2	Dawn Chorus organised and led by TM was a success with some new faces. Update is posted on		
7.3	Bats. AH will ask Nick Pond if he can do another bat walk 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of September, this year's Green Flag judge, (Dr Ian Boulton) had also offered his assistance at leading one.	<b>AH</b>	
7.4	Midsummer Fayre is on 20 June: volunteers needed. Clare of BrocSoc has agreed to fund the taxi for Jenny MBE) as a one-off. Cost = £160. Should also have collection for donations, Mugs are on order, Tom will organise quiz. Help for setting up marquee early morning needed. AH to try to get double marquee as last year. MF to source 3 x 3 marquee for Sussex Bat Hospital. Kate a meadow expert will be working on south Meadow and Tom will be assisting on the day with Nature's Gym.	<b>MF, RM, AH and HM</b>	
<b>8.</b>	<b><u>Meadows</u></b>		
8.1	Nature's Gym are in south meadow on 20 <sup>th</sup> June at 11am until 2pm.		
8.2	After initial confusion, Glendale had rotovated meadow area and sown seed. A car was then parked on the area one night. Seeds later germinated and driven over, by what looks like the ride on mower. Half the seedlings have been flattened.	<b>WD/SK</b>	
8.3	WD and RM had marked self sown ash that needed removing. Angus at Glendale had said tree people were too busy to do. RM said it was now too late in season and needed to be done in September. Noting that the trees would have another years growth and be harder to remove.	<b>Glendale</b>	
<b>9.</b>	<b><u>Development Plan</u></b>		
9.1	Orchard and fruiting hedge ongoing watering now with 20L per week through summer for four recently planted trees.		
9.2	OH Memorial Garden: there had been requests to use	<b>RM</b>	

	for Forest School. This could be the easiest way to increase usage. RM to review with Forest school group and see if there was still scope for shade garden planting that could be protected. Noting area towards back was quite large.		
9.3	Tree strategy –TM reviewing to get simple version out, so can be shared with park management.	<b>RM/TM</b>	
9.4	Masterplan – still needs to be finalized. Will try to print copy for Fayre.	RM	
<b>10.</b>	<b><u>Bird Champion</u></b>		
10.1	Monthly surveys continuing. Last week there was a first sighting of spotted fly catcher, seen on hawthorns on the Cliffview Boundary. Updates of all birds are posted on the Bird Champion Blog.		
<b>11.</b>	<b><u>Dog Issues</u></b>		
11.1	Gaps in fence on Cliffview Boundary have meant an increasing number of dogs are getting into back gardens. One has caused £50 of damage to newly planted pots. The gaps is to back of garage and can't be fixed from house side. Previously Keith the former park keeper had kept this repaired. WD to speak to Angus about repairing.		
<b>12.</b>	<b><u>Unauthorised Vehicles and Ice Cream Van</u></b>		
12.1	Symon reported that unauthorised vehicles are still using the park: cars, motorbikes and quad bikes. Police should be called when they are seen in the park. AR said the motorbikes did not have registration and they just left park by different entrance when they saw the police.		
12.2	<p>RM had followed up complaints about long hours ice cream van now spent in park and location on grass. No feedback from Glendale, only to say we had wanted the ice-cream van.</p> <p>When café was opened Glendale would have not allowed any ice cream vans, but RM said the Friends had supported the ice cream van as they did not want anyone to loose their business, but the set up was now very different from the initial one that they had supported.</p> <p>Additionally, they had had complaints that it was a near constant presence outside the playground and it made it difficult for parents.</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They had expanded their hours, arrive at 11.00 and stay until 5/6 pm,</li> <li>• drive through the park rather than up Eastern Road</li> <li>• park on the grass, rather than on the Lane.</li> </ul> <p>AR said he parked outside the park because at that time he had no licence.</p> <p>AR said that he had got a new system on van so that it did not release the diesel until it drove off. So it no longer polluted the immediate area. Would also convert to electric if there was a point in park.</p> <p>AR said there had been no grass for 40 years on the spot he parked on and that he was in the way of Glendale vans if he parked on the tarmac.</p> <p>Agreed to meet in near future to discuss a safe place off the grass. Also prefer Glendale's van movements to be limited. Could investigate electric point long term.</p>		
13.	Bowls Club		
13.1	The bowls club house has been condemned as unfit and unsafe. Lewisham/Glendale have no money to demolish or repair it. The club is therefore urgently looking at ways of funding a new building. In the meantime, we have been given the use of the Bothy as a temporary solution and have created changing rooms in the summer house and one portacabin already on site. We have also borrowed a marquee to use for shelter on site.		
13.2	Hedge planting is now complete and growing well		
13.3	Open day on May bank holiday a success.		

**Next Meeting will be the AGM on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 at 7.30 in the café**

**The BIG PHOTO: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2015. Assemble at 2pm  
For Photo at 3pm.**