

Minutes of Friends of Hilly Fields Open Meeting: 8 September 2015

1. Present: Rachel Mooney (Chair), Tom Moulton (Secretary), Andrew Harper (Treasurer), Martin Hyde (Greenscene), Symon Knightswood, Marcus Fox, Colm MacCormac, Fred Harding, Keith Ward, Frances Ward, Akan Rustom, Chris Wheal, Robert Sheppard, L Saunders, Katarina Thomson, Susan.

2. Apologies: Gemma Buttell (Glendale), Helen Mercer

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

3.1 Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

4. Annual General Meeting

4.1 Rachel read out the draft Annual Report. This was approved.

4.2 Andrew Harper stated that the Treasurer's Report is in preparation.

		Action:
5.	General Maintenance and Park Furniture	
5.1	Stencil direction signs for Skanska lamp columns. Rachel will send design to Martin	RM
5.2	Table tennis table: Rachel still looking into whether it could be added to a larger grant application	RM
5.3	Still looking for a suitable noticeboard	RM/MF
5.4	Repainting of pirate ship and train in hand	Glendale
5.5	Trig point: to look at painting and include information on its purpose/history in the work.	SK/RM
5.6	Although Glendale have confirmed they won't mow grass around trees, and some trees do now how longer grass around them. It has still been happening on some trees. Martin will raise at contract meeting	MH
5.8	Tree strategy: reduced form of tree strategy doc will be produced for forthcoming meeting with J Thompson/P Moss (Tree Officer)	TM
6	Portakabin and Section 106	
6.1	Section 106 money, 2 nd tranche: quote from Glendale for Eastern Rd setts is £3685. Friends Sub-Committee will decide what they want asap. Nb. Council pays VAT	Friends
7	Meadows	
7.1	TM had worked with Nature's Gym 20 June on the south meadow, but it had only weeded a small area. A useful site meeting had been held with J Thompson/A Wickham (Glendale) on 16 July. Efforts would be made to find volunteers to assist with meadow management next year. It is intended to sow yellow rattle in autumn which is parasitic on grass and can reduce it.	TM
7.2	Agreed to remit the issue of self-sown trees to the forthcoming tree strategy meeting.	
8	Bird Champion	
8.1	Monthly surveys continued. Results on BirdTrack & summarised in HF Birdwatch blog. Numbers had fallen after the end of the breeding season but a nuthatch had been seen at end of June, a family of long-tailed tits seen regularly and a Jay taking acorns in Sept.	
9	Unauthorised Vehicles and Ice Cream Van	
9.1	Unauthorised vehicles still using HF. Friends urged to report, not threaten. The registration no. should be passed on to Glendale. Bye law offence, not highway	

	violation. New bye laws say £500 fine if broken. New Bye Laws (based on Govt model) approved by Mayor, to be discussed by Council in Sept. Statutory consultation period 1 month. Govt to approve (hopefully by Xmas). Nb. Bye Laws also state no fires. Exceptions can be made, eg. for fire pits	
9.2	Ice cream van: agreed that barrier at top of lane will be moved back to enable van to park on tarmac & not on grass.	Glendale
10	Litter	
10.1	Chris Wheal has begun to empty litter bins on busy summer evenings to avoid fox littering & in view of lack of park keeper in the mornings. Bin bags are put in large bin outside bothy. More volunteers needed. Chris was thanked for his efforts.	
10.2	Four new bins are on order. Chris & Symon to sort out locations for them.	CW/SK
11	Bowls Club	
11.1	Martin has a meeting with the bowls club and is seeking funding for a new building which would provide facilities both for the bowls club and the Friends. Current estimated costs for a traditional bldg are £165K, for a modular bldg £180K. Mayor is supportive. Will email form to the Friends. Friends could bid for upto £20k from London Marathon Trust.	.
	Martin reported that the Council have entered into a partnership with the LTA re tennis club at Ladywell Fields. Includes improvements at other sites. Charging could be introduced for use of courts. Floodlighting could move forward if tennis club goes forward. This may be something that they look to for Hilly Fields in the future.	
12	Miscellaneous	
12.1	Martin drew attention to an events survey on the council website. Should the council encourage more commercial events and if so where should the money go.	
12.2	Trees: a large tree branch fell onto the playground. Works are being carried out on trees around the playground as a result. One ash has been felled, others pruned. MH handed plan showing trees to be felled or crown thinned in next month.	
12.3	Memorial benches: two new requests have been received by the council. Friends agreed to consider a bespoke design with discreet designation.	Friends
AO B	A bat walk will be held on 23/9 starting at 6.45.	
	Rachel to contact Judith Simmonds (Glendale) re improvements to Cliffview border.	RM
	NEXT MEETING RESCHEDULED WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 2015 (NOT TUESDAY)	
	RSPB BIG BIRD WATCH: Sunday 31st January, 2016	

FOR THE FIRST NATURE'S GYM OF THE NEW YEAR
Meet on Eastern Road, off Adelaide Avenue. Look out for the blue van.
Planned Bramble Clearance. Any queries contact:
Judith Simmons
t. 020 8852 9167 m. 07919548324
judith.simmons@glendale-services