



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING minutes

11th February 2010

Present: Barry McLeod (BM)-chair, Jackie Freeman (JF) – minutes, Becky Thoburn (BT), Ken Taylor (KT), Jo Canning, Kerri Hall, Lorna Muffett (LM), Howard Millbank (HM), Lisa Hopes (LH), Tracy Ghali (TG), Mel Rogers (MR)

Apologies: Emma Channon (EC), Sarah Peacock (SPe), Elizabeth Ellis

Next Meeting: **Wed 17th March at 7.30pm at Becky's House (9 Kings Road) .**

REPORTS

Action

1 CHAIRS REPORT

BM thanked everyone for coming and everyone's hard work over the past year. Noted that we have had a really successful year, putting on a number of events (Easter Egg hunt, Music in the Park, Youth Day, Dog Show, Bulb Planting and Carol Singing) and the funding of the new play area, bat/bird boxes and website. Also thanks to all who have organised and volunteered to help.

2 TREASURERS REPORT

KT provided a summary so far for this financial year (attached). Started the financial year with around £800 and present balance around £1400. We have also increased our spending within the park and have spend around £3000 over the past 3 years for park improvements. Noted that although the BCP hold our bank account, there would be no financial penalty if we wished to open our own bank account (to enable us to gain interest). BM signed off accounts and thanked Ken. Noted that one APAG aims was to self fund events and the group felt that we had achieved this.

3 SECRETARY

Membership of the group is still rising. Ought to re-publicise group once play area improvements are completed.

Freepost postal address is no longer, if it ever was, operational. JF has had no reply from BCC. There is now a box file via BCP at Wicklea Community Centre. Noted that previous postal members should be recontacted as it is not certain whether BCC passed on any replies to whether they wished to continue to receive information about the park group. Agreed that stamps could be purchased, where necessary for this rather than time consuming leaflet drops.

4 Fund Raising Update

See previous minutes for more detailed information:

APAG have submitted several bids over the past year, some successful, some not. It was noted that the amount of funding available to groups had fallen this year.

BCC/Play Pathfinder funding to rejuvenate the play area – work due to be completed by the 2nd week in March.

BT has been on training re applying for funding – notes available on request.

EC emailed to say that another dog waste bin was purchased from the Dog Show monies. They are considering funding new benches if this year's event is as successful as last years. Please All let her know if anyone has any other ideas of what could be funded.

SPe feedback via BT re Easter Egg hunt – she isn't able to organise it this year but will approach businesses for donations again if we are intending to run it. TG to email those who offered help last year.

Cemetary Links

LM advised that security is still an issue for the cemetery. They have had 1 major, organised theft and several smaller ones as well as acts of vandalism. Gate into park is still an issue but may be solved by BCC appointing a park ranger.

Shop is now open (9am-1pm Mon-Sat), staffed by volunteers, in the East Lodge, by the main gates.

LM meeting with Health Walks to try and get some walks planned for the cemetery.

New Buildings launch event planned for the 1st May bank holiday – see website for details. BT recommended we advertise/link from our website to increase publicity. NB The cemetery is also on Facebook and Twitter.

Environmental Group

Bulb planting happened in the Autumn and plans for seed bombs/mini beast hunts later this year.

BT has had discussions with BCC re planting fruit/nut trees. BCC have agreed to supply the trees VAT free if we can fund the tree and 3years maintenance (£330/tree). To be planted at a school/community event. To apply to BCP grant. BT

Events Group

EC emailed to say that she is unable to organise any events this year except the Dog Show with Lissi, in Sept. but is still available to help with planning/licences for any other park events.

5 CONSTITUTION (see attached)

BM outlined the reasons for having. Copy to go onto website. All to feedback if changes are felt to be needed.

6 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

BM/JF/KT outlined the 3 key roles. BM reminded all that the roles are volunteered and support will be given.

BT wondered if roles could be more fluid ie looking at jobs/volunteers as they arise or rotating roles. Proposed that all present could be on the management committee, committing to being able to give some time to the park but without committing to specific roles. All agreed.

KT reminded all that 3 committee members were required for agreements/to authorize payments.

Chair: LN volunteered to be main contact for APAG. BM proposed, TG seconded. All agreed.

Charing meetings to be rotated

NB LN has since retracted this offer and Mel Rogers has agreed to stand. Accepted.

Secretary: Mel Rogers volunteered to stand. BM proposed, BT seconded. All agreed.

Agreed meetings minute taking to be rotated.

NB MR is now chair so this post still needs filling

Treasurer: Howard Millbank volunteered to stand. BT proposed, KT seconded. All agreed.

Howard has been a treasurer in the past for a local trade union.

NB Rami Ghali was volunteered to audit accounts yearly.

7 Focus for 2010

- Review APAG priorities (results from the public consultation):
- Events: Easter Egg Hunt, Fruit/nut tree planting, Play park launch, Music in the Park, Dog Show, Bulb planting, Carols – if anyone else has any good ideas/willing to help please let us know.
- Increase publicity of park and events eg newsletters via schools/libraries, noticeboards, website counter, BCP diary etc
- Apply to BCP re reprinting of KT 'History of the Park' – to discuss at next meeting.

All

Next Meeting: 7:30pm Wednesday 17th March 2010
Becky's House (9 Kings Road)