



**Minutes of 26th Group Meeting held at St. Saviours Church Hall,
Brockley Rise, SE23 on 10th May 2007, 7.30pm**

Present:- BHFUG members:

Gavin Bolam (Chair)	Kylie Barnes (Secretary)	Sydney Couldridge
Elizabeth Downie	Alan Bailey	Mark Wellband
Sharon Lloyd	Sylvia Scott – Ward Councillor	Lara Al Jabi - Glendale
Marcel Jenkins	Josh Smaller	David Thomas
Caroline Sefton	Zara John	Hannah Van Den Wijngaard
	Leslie Stopford/Audrey	P C. ?

Apologies:-

Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)	Albert Blackmore	Maureen Couldridge
	Francis O'Connor	Ray Ashley
	Norman Druker	Councillor Jackie Addison

1. Welcome and Apologies

GB opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The only issue arising with the Minutes of the last Meeting were the description of the particular breeds of dogs that were damaging the children's play area and that had been seen on a number of occasions fighting.

3. Committee Resignations & Appointments

GB mentioned that he will be resigning as Chair at the next AGM and a new Chair will have to be voted in. We would also like to wish Ray Ashley a speedy recovery.

4. New Committee Members

GB offered to all attending if people wanted to join the committee but none wished to take up any positions and join in.

5. Fund Raising and Publicity

Josh Smaller raised the issue of who was taking care of funding for the under 5's for the children's play areas. GB mentioned that nothing was happening as all our energies were being used in promoting and organising the Fun Day.

Councillor Sylvia Scott reported that she had been having meetings with Councillor Wise about the children's play areas in all the parks in the Lewisham borough. A Breakdown had been done and it was currently going through to the cabinet members for discussion. The Council has been busy with the Green Flag for Lewisham.

GB had reported to Glendale about the fencing being damaged to the alley way up to the fields. This has now been repaired. SC reported that repairs to fencing had been undertaken as well.

As there were other areas of neglect around the fields, PC ?? mentioned that we might be able to use a "Payback Scheme". GB will liaise.

6. **Fun Day in the Fields (Saturday 16 June 2007 – 11am – 4pm)**

The Committee had been busy planning the events for the Fun Day.

Sydney Couldridge designed a poster to publicise the Fun Day on Sat 16 June which has now been printed and many copies laminated.

GB and KB have allocated Portaloos for the event. A bouncy castle has been booked. A donkey will be there to give children rides. A band will be playing on the day and GB has allocated a generator to run the band and a wireless pa system. Councillor Scott pointed out that a music licence would be required. KB to finalise with GM.

GB wrote editorial features to go in various media editions i.e. Lewisham Life, SE23, The Mercury, the New shopper etc. to promote Sat 16 June Blythe Hill fun day to a wider audience. Posters have been laminated and will be appearing in pubs, shops and many other places.

Josh Smaller mentioned to Lara Al Jabi that it would be good if Glendales could mow the areas we will be using for egg and spoon races before our event.

The issue of First Aid was mentioned. Josh Smaller will be a first aider and the Police, who will have a stall on the day will also have their kit with them. It was agreed that BHFUG would supply a first aid kit of their own

Lara Al Jabi from Glendales is in the process of making the sponsored bird boxes for the event.

Elizabeth Downie wrote to the Mayor Steve Bullock asking him to open our event. The time of arrival will be confirmed at a later date.

Hannah and Zahra will sell lemonade on a stall and get children to decorate biscuits with icing and sell them.

All activities have been finalised but we desperately needed more volunteers. GB and KB wrote to the wider community asking for volunteers to make Sat 16 June Blythe Hill Fun day happen and run smoothly but none have volunteered so far.

The balloon race will be taking place again and KB is to enquire with Martin Hyde whether or not we can use the same freepost address that we did last year. It was agreed that the balloons launch site would depend on the wind direction on the day

A barbecue is booked and will be serving delicious food on the day. It was noted that hot items [tea urn, barbecue, generator etc] for Health and Safety reasons would be cordoned off to protect the visitors. Hannah and Zara are to e-mail over a Health and Safety Certificate for the biscuit making.

Volunteer Stewards were allocated. These were Sydney Couldridge, Mark Wellband, Caroline Sefton, Marcel Jenkins, Josh Smaller, John Coker, Alan Bailey, Gavin Bolam and Kylie Barnes. These people will be wearing a coloured T shirt with the word “Steward” written on.

KB said she would design a sign for the bird boxes that “all proceeds raised from the fun day will go towards the User Group”.

6. Treasurer’s Report / Bank Account

The Treasurer reported that there was now £1,640.00 in the bank account. The Treasurer now has access to the account. As promised, the Ward Councillors paid in £1,500 to the account.

7. Any Other Business

8. Dates of the Future Meetings

The Committee will be holding a meeting on the on the 16th May at 7.30pm to finalise the site plan of activities for the Sat 16 June Fun Day event.

1. 7th June
2. 2nd August
3. 25th October AGM
4. 6th December

MISSION STATEMENT

Blythe Hill Fields User Group (BHFUG) exists to represent everyone living around or using Blythe Hill Fields. Our purpose is to achieve sustainable improvements and facilities in this vital resource for the benefit of the whole community. We aim to promote the increased use and enjoyment of this essential open space.