



Minutes of 27th Group Meeting held at The Ackroyd Community Centre, SE23 on 6th September 2007, 7.30pm

Present:- BHFUG members:

Gavin Bolam (Chair)	Kylie Barnes (Secretary)	Sydney Couldridge
Sue Hoult	Alan Bailey	Mark Wellband
Elizabeth Downie	Sylvia Scott – Ward Councillor	Caroline Sefton
Molly Bertrand	Deidre Mason	Albert Blackmore
Nicholas Taylor	Juliette Flower	Hannah V Wijngard
	Lara Al-Jabi (Glendale)	

Apologies:-

Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)	Marcel and Harriet Jenkins	Councillor Jackie Addison
Malcolm Trott	Anne Scott	

1. Welcome and Apologies

GB opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Committee Resignations & Appointments

GB stated that he was going to be resigning as Chair at the AGM.

4. Fun Day – Saturday June 16th

The committee had met in July to discuss the possibility of having another fun day. This discussion was brought to tonight's meeting to get views from the attendees on whether or not the group should try to set up another fun day for next year. It was generally felt that an event should take place but discussions on whether the event should be one along the same lines as we had this year. Keeping the event "green", not making it too commercial, and generally environmentally friendly for the users and residents of the fields. It was felt also not to make the event bigger than last time, but to improve on what we had achieved to make it better than before.

Elizabeth Downie wanted information on budget costings to see where the costs went.

It was agreed to set certain rates for people wanting to hold stalls on the day.

Molly Bertrand felt that local produce, good value items produced locally should be on sale on the day as opposed to cheap hamburgers and fried food supplied by vendor's from catering

vans. Also local art & craft stalls, cake & pottery making etc, & to continue with the children's races – with a no charge element, making them accessible to all children.

In terms of obtaining funding for the group, it was decided that Alan Bailey, Mark Wellband and Nicholas Taylor would help Kylie Barnes in completing some of the application forms she had downloaded.

5. Hall Hire for Further Meetings

KB had booked the hall for this meeting at the Ackroyd Centre. It is hoped that upon confirmation of the Ackroyd Community Centre's committee meeting that we can be notified of whether or not we have been accepted for affiliation to hold regular meetings here.

6. AGM Date

The AGM date has been set and agreed and will be held on 22nd October 2007 at 7.30pm and will take place at the Ackroyd Community Centre. Some refreshments will be provided but if you are able to bring something along to the meeting and get together afterwards, it will be much appreciated.

Councillor Sylvia Scott mentioned again that it would be a good idea to ask Councillor Susan Wise to chair our AGM meeting. A letter will be sent to her asking if she would like to attend.

All current members of the committee must resign and be re-elected if they wish to continue to stand on the committee. There will be a vacancy for Chair, and at least 2 new members.

In order for us to promote the AGM it was felt that some form of advertising had to be done to encourage people to come to the meeting. However the issue of cost of advertising was raised by Elizabeth Downie as to how much the committee were prepared to spend in order to get people to come. There are avenues of advertising for free ie., Lewisham Life, SE23, SE4U in the back of the magazines, or alternatively, doing a leaflet drop. 4 Attendees at this meeting offered to deliver leaflets to householders in their area, should the committee choose this route.

In order for us to advertise and promote our user group it was felt that more notice boards were needed within the fields but as there is only one and KB has been requesting more notice boards this matter has been followed up on a number of occasions with no set response from Lewisham Council as to how new notice boards could be funded. Cllr Sylvia Scott added that Glendale's maintained the field. Alan Bailey has offered to look into this again on behalf of KB.

7. Any Other Business

a) Logo re-branding

As a result of the committee meeting held in the summer it was agreed that Sydney Couldridge would look at slightly changing our current logo/banner to include our web address and the secretary's e-mail address to make it more visible so that the new logo would become a brand for our user group. This would be used on all headed paper and any documentation.

b) Photos to the web site

As a result of the committee meeting held in the summer it was agreed that Mark Wellband would pass photographs of the fun day on to Marcel Jenkins to be placed onto the web site.

c) Bulb and Hedge Planting

Glendale has kindly given us more bulbs and hedging to be planted within the fields. The first bulb planting day will take place on Saturday the 10th November 2007 starting at 10.30am with hedging to take place in January / February 2008. Dates of these activities are to be confirmed.

8. Dates of the Future Meetings

This topic was not discussed owing to time restraints. It will be followed up during the course of the AGM.

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.