

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2009, 7.30pm
held at The Ackroyd Community Centre, SE23**



Present:- Friends of Blythe Hill Fields members:

Alan Bailey (Chair)	Kylie Barnes (Secretary)	Gavin Bolam	Sydney Couldridge
Jo Ireland	Albert Blackmore	Elizabeth Downie	Marcel Jenkins
Lara Al-Jabi (Glendale)	Nicholas Taylor	David Byrne	Dave Moss (Police)
Molly Bertrand	David Thomas	Judith Brassington	Tim Hall
Sarah Smith – Groundworks	Josh Smaller		

Apologies:-

Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)	Cllr Sylvia Scott	Anne Scott
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1. Welcome and Apologies

Alan Bailey opened the meeting. Apologies were from Sylvia Scott.

2. Minutes of the Last meeting and Matters Arising

There were no amendments but an update to point 3 of the last minutes. See below.

3. Update on Playbuilder bid for improvements to the Children's playground

AB, KB and SC met with Sarah Smith from Groundworks on the 11th June to discuss the £75,000 funding for the playground. Discussions took place as to what things could go into the playground and outside of the existing boundary. We talked of using natural materials to contrast with the current playground facilities. GW will look at and propose some sketches and ideas and these will be on show at the Festival for people to see. Sarah took questions from those at the meeting tonight – one of those was could the zip wire be moved. Unfortunately, the funding currently available won't allow for it to be included. There were discussions as to the new playground at Hornimans Triangle. What were the ages of the children that use it? It was noted that some of the rocks looked very artificial.

Fencing was mentioned around the perimeter of the playground to keep out dogs but instead of using the usual metal fencing, hedging could be used instead. It would be a softer alternative and less harsh on the eyes. Disabled areas including sensory / small, noise ie. (chimes). The use of safe play using water. The playground needs to be vandal-proof. The idea of including a grass area for ball activities was discussed.

4. Update on plans for Tree re-stocking and Wildflower Meadow

Nicholas Taylor mentioned that our proposal is to be considered by Mayor and Cabinet around the 15th July.

5. Festival - Saturday 27th June 2009

The Application to hold the Festival has now been agreed. All things are progressing well in time to hold the festival.

The question of Charity applications for stalls came up. Do we as a Group want to accept charities at our events? We agreed that we were not actually against Charities taking stalls as such. We remain concerned if the purpose of the stall is simply to fund raise without offering anything of interest at the same time. We will give more thought to this for 2010.

KB and Nicholas Taylor met with the recycling team. 30 green boxes will be delivered and 6 euro bins to aid in the recycling at our event. Signage is to go on every green bin to encourage visitors to use them.

A banner has been designed to go over the History Tent at a cost of £100 inc. VAT. KB and Marien Lawes have made a "home-made" banner to go at the entrance of Montacute Road advertising the Festival.

The police horses will make an appearance on the day. KB will meet and take the Mayor around the event. We still need more donkey handlers for the day. The Fair Trade person has confirmed he will be coming along.

It was suggested to sell plug plants at £1 each for the new flower meadow that we are creating. SC will be taking photographs on the day of the event.

6. **Any Other Business**

7. **Dates of Meetings for 2009**

**Our next meeting is due on Thursday the 16th of July and will be held
within Blythe Hill Fields**

Meet at the Play Ground for 7:30 pm

Bring a chair/picnic/beverage/umbrella!

The AGM date has been amended to 8th October 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

Friends of Blythe Hill Fields (FBHF) 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.