



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 7 May 2009, 7.30pm  
held at The Ackroyd Community Centre, SE23**

**Present:- Friends of Blythe Hill Fields members:**

Alan Bailey (Chair)  
Jo Ireland  
Cllr Sylvia Scott

Kylie Barnes (Secretary)  
Albert Blackmore  
Nicholas Taylor

Gavin Bolam  
Elizabeth Downie  
David Byrne

Sydney Couldridge  
Marcel Jenkins  
Dave Moss (Police)

**Apologies:-**

Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)  
Anne Scott  
Lara Al-Jabi (Glendale)

Molly Bertrand  
Monica Lee

Judith Brassington  
Mary Tighe

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Alan Bailey opened the meeting.

## 2. Minutes of the Last meeting and Matters Arising

There were no amendments.

- d) Roman Road – AB has not been able to chase this up.
- e) Tree Planting/Schools. Contact not yet made. AB will try to do so and link in to Festival.
- h) Wildflower Meadow – see Item 4

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

A meeting is still to be held with Martin Hyde, the Friends and Groundwork South East Landscaping Architects. The contact at GWSE has been unavailable. MH will be organising a meeting so that the process can be started as soon as possible.

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

AB is to meet with Lara Al-Jabi on Friday the 8th. The next Local Assembly meeting is on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> May. Bids will be discussed and decisions made about which should be progressed. AB will present our bid. A vote will be taken at the Local Assembly meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 as to which bids have the support needed to go forward to Mayor and Cabinet for approval.

The issue of poor drainage in the Fields, particularly on the Codrington Hill slope, was discussed. This is killing some of the trees. Given the nature of the subsoil and the cost and intrusive nature of excavation, it was agreed that finding tree varieties that could cope with damp conditions was the best approach to the problem.

Sydney Couldridge received a huge amount of thanks for his work in preparing the Tree and Wildflower Meadow Proposal. This will be made available on the web site for all to see.

## 5. Festival - Saturday 27th June 2009

The Application to hold the Festival has now been submitted to Glendale's as well as a Temporary Events Licence. The stage, PA and toilets have now been booked. Kylie Barnes and Nicholas Taylor will be meeting with Sam Kirk on the 20<sup>th</sup> May to discuss litter and recycling at the event. Posters for help are still being displayed in numerous places and some volunteers have already expressed interest to help, however we still need more volunteers – PLEASE!!

- Banners – ED and AB will look into the possibility of buying some banners to advertise the Festival around the perimeter of the fields.
- A couple of Police horses may be able to make an appearance on the day.
- The Mayor will be opening the event at 12.30 p.m.

- Straw bales are on AB's "to do" list.
- More help with the BBQ on the day would be very useful.
- More Donkey Walkers are urgently required. Please offer if you can help.
- AB was asked to ensure that none of the stallholders is "campaigning or petition compiling".
- Can we have the Fair Trade man back?
- JI may be able to help with a First Aid kit. AB will contact.
- We need a water and a Co2 Fire Extinguisher. AB will ask JS for advice.
- Someone may be able to provide Blood Pressure Monitoring advice. AB to be first in the queue.

**All new offers of help assistance are very welcome.**  
**As are Bright ideas for interesting activities that you might run on the day.**

#### 6. Any Other Business

The Pilot project for signage – New signs have been installed and we gave this feedback.

*"I am afraid that I can't report much enthusiasm for them.  
They are very clear and easy to read. But they look like interior signage rather than something appropriate for outdoors, particularly a Park. They are a bit stark and clinical and not at all organic, green or natural.  
The sign at the Codrington Hill entrance seems to be "moisting up" inside.  
The noticeboard doesn't provide much space inside for notices. It certainly allows for fewer than the old board did.  
We could also do with a second noticeboard at one of the other entrances as there is a lot of "traffic" through the park to/from Brockley View and Montacute Road.  
We also wondered whether the Finger Post should point to Crofton Park rather than Brockley."*

If you have any more comments, please send them to the Secretary and we will forward them to Lewisham Council, Comms Dept.

#### 7. Dates of Meetings for 2009

**Our next meeting is due on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June.**

**16<sup>th</sup> July**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October (AGM) (provisional)**  
**3rd December**

#### **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.