



Minutes of Meeting
held on 4 December 2012
at Blythe Hill Tavern

Present:- Friends of Blythe Hill Fields members:

Nicholas Taylor (Chair), Marcel Jenkins, Leo Stevens, Lynne Owen, Jo Ireland, Alice Casey, Jo Knorpel, Gavin Bolam

Apologies:- Sydney Couldridge, Hugh Brown, Liz Downie

1. Welcome

Nicholas Taylor (NT) welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the AGM were agreed. Leo Stevens had confirmed that he had now received a formal grant offer letter for £500 from the Crofton Park Assembly.

3. Tree Planting and other nature issues

Lynne Owen (LO) had ordered over 1,000 bulbs from a supplier after a tip off from Judith Simmons at Glendale as they were being given away. They were due arrive shortly and an email would be sent out asking for volunteers to plant them before Christmas.

Mulch had also been ordered and Gavin Bolam (GB) said that people were welcome to use his mulch outside his garden.

The previous planting day had gone well and all the whips had now been planted.

NT also discussed his draft letter to Glendale about the dead trees and it was agreed to send this out as soon as possible.

4. Survey

LS brought along the results of the survey. There had only been around 20 or so responses but they had revealed that semi-mature trees and a panorama were the most popular options.

A discussion took place about the proposed panorama and it was agreed that NT and GB would look into the potential cost of both commissioning the artist and buying the stone and report back at the next meeting.

Alice Casey (AC) suggested crowdfunding and applying for grants from charitable organisations such as Heritage Lottery Fund once we knew how much it would cost.

Marcel Jenkins (MJ) also suggested applying for grants from the Landfill Levy scheme as this is what the Friends of Northbrook Park did successfully. LS said he would look into this as we would need to register with Entrust to be able to access any money.

5. Lewisham Parks Conference

MJ had been invited to speak at the Lewisham Parks Conference and gave a presentation about the history of the Friends and an outline of its successes to date. He also listened to other presentations including from Glendale and Lewisham Council fed back his observations. He said that Glendale were likely to be hit by further budget cuts in the next year and that it would be a sensible move to pool the knowledge of other park user groups in Lewisham in terms of how to deal with Glendale and the Council and about potential grants that can be accessed.

6. Date of festival and next meeting

A provisional date of Saturday 6 July 2013 was set for the festival subject to checking that the Hilly Fields Festival or Lewisham Peoples Day (if held) were not on the same date.

The next meeting was proposed for Wednesday 30 January 2013 at the Blythe Hill Tavern again.

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.