



Minutes of Meeting
held on 8 January 2014
at the Blythe Hill Tavern

Present:- Friends of Blythe Hill Fields members:

Nicholas Taylor (Chair), Gavin Bolam, Leo Stevens (Secretary), Jo Ireland, Hugh Brown (Treasurer), Jim Smith, Cathy Ashley, Jo Knorpel, Symon Knightswood, Zaria Greenhill, Anne Scott, Tony Urquhart, Nadia Sellars, Megan Morgan, Fionna Gibb

Apologies:- None

1. Welcome

Nicholas Taylor (NT) welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially those who had not attending a meeting before

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes were amended to note that Zaria Greenhill was the green issues representative on the committee (the role to be shared with Cathy Ashley).

Hugh Brown was elected as interim treasurer as he kindly agreed to take the role.

3. Festival Update

LS reported that the funding application for a grant from the Crofton Park Assembly was successful and that we were awarded £500. The result of the Catford Rotary Club application was still awaited and we could not reapply to the Co-Operative Community Fund until February.

HB reported that tasks had started to be assigned after the last festival committee meeting but we still needed extra help if anyone was interested in doing so.

The project plan would be emailed to the membership list once updated so that volunteers could choose the tasks that they wanted to help with.

There was a discussion about bands and it was agreed that we would write to local schools asking if they wanted to take part. Megan Morgan stated that her son was in the Lewisham Schools rock band and that they would be keen on taking part. GB would follow this up.

JK also mentioned that her friend Brenda Rattray would be interested in leading a choir for the festival and, again this would be followed up by GB.

4. Green Issues

NT sent a letter to Martin Hyde (Head of Environment at Lewisham Council) about the dead trees and a meeting was arranged for Monday 20 January at the park to discuss. He asked whether anyone else was interested in attending and to let him know if they did.

He wanted to see the contract between the Council and Glendale before the meeting as this would show whether Glendale were obliged to replace the dead trees. TU suggested contacting the Council as it was a public document and should therefore be available under a Freedom of Information request.

CA raised the issue of having a survey carried out to see how the drainage worked at the park and therefore work out the best place to plant the trees. She suggested that this could be a project that could be carried out with a suitable school or college.

ZG had met with Judith Simmons of Glendale and would arrange a Nature's Gym and hedge planting session at the park shortly.

She also mentioned the big bird watch on the weekend of 25/26 January and suggested we do something at the park. LS would send out something to the mailing list and post on the facebook page and local blogs.

She stated that Glendale were looking for volunteers to keep an eye on birds and bats nesting at the park and LS would ask if anyone was interested in the next mailout.

NT suggested a park environment sub-committee and LS would ask for volunteers in the next mailout.

5. Date of next meeting

The next main meeting would be held on 5 March and the next festival sub-committee meeting would be held on 5 February.

6. AOB

None

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.