



Patron: Rt. Hon. Simon Hughes M.P.
Chairperson: Gary Glover
Vice-Chairperson: Amanda Squires
Secretary: Pat Kingwell
Treasurer: Marjorie Hill
Assistant Treasurer: Ron Henocq
Membership: Corinne Turner

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General Meeting
Wednesday 14th March 2012 6.00pm at
The Park Office, near to the Cafe in Southwark Park

Agenda

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Notes of meeting of 15th February 2012 and Matters Arising (attached)**
- 3. Southwark Park Dance Showcase 7/8 July 2012 – Laura Erwin**
- 4. Former Nursery Update – Sharon Lomas LBS**
- 5. Photography Project – Pat Kingwell/Gary Magold**
- 6. Park Manager's Report – Andy Chatterton LBS**
- 7. Bowling Club Update – Jim Saunders/Colin Smith**
- 8. King's Stairs Gardens Issues – Amanda Squires/Michael Daniels**
- 9. Gallery Update – Ron Henocq**
- 10. Planning Matters – updates if available on:**
 - 122-124 Lower Road -The Yellow House (Ref: 04-AP-1160)**
 - Opposite 147 Lower Road – Advertising Signs (Ref: 11/AP/3346)**
- 11. Finances – Marjorie Hill**
- 12. Any Other Business**
- 13. Dates of Future Meetings**

Pat Kingwell
Secretary
9th March 2012



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**Notes of Friends of Southwark Park General Meeting
 held on 15th February 2012 at
 The Park Office, Southwark Park**

In attendance:

Simon Bennett; William Cameron; Michael Daniels; Dave Fisher; Colin Hartridge-Price; Marjorie Hill; Pat Kingwell; Sharon Lomas (London Borough of Southwark); Gary Magold; Andrea Pita (London Borough of Southwark); Jim Saunders; Tracy Scales; Sue Sexton; Amanda Squires; Colin Smith; George Witsey

	Item	Action
1.	Apologies Andy Chatterton (London Borough of Southwark); Cllr. Anood Al-Samerai; Alison Clayburn; Jean Cunliffe; Judith Deschamps; Gary Glover; Ron Henocq; Rt. Hon. Simon Hughes M.P.; Cllr. Catherine MacDonald; Susan Vaughan	
2.	Notes of meeting of 18th January 2012 The notes were agreed as a true record.	
2.1	Matters Arising	
2.1.1	Southwark Park Playroom Mike Smith (LBS) had agreed to come back on concerns raised over public information about the service, including the content and quality of signage. Also the question of the use of the large metal container near the playroom. Agreed to chase up.	Pat Kingwell
3.	Southwark Park Old Nursery Update Sharon Lomas reported that the tender stage was to commence in March 2012 with returns due by mid-April 2012. The idea is to obtain from interested parties their concepts for the use of the land and also 5 year business plans. Applicants will be short-listed and The Friends will be involved in the selection process. Sharon to progress and keep us informed.	Sharon Lomas
4.	'I Love Jamaica Day' event Following the special meeting held on 6 th February to discuss this issue, a letter was sent to John Benton of Southwark Council, which is appended to these notes. In the discussion it was suggested we should request a production schedule from the organisers and also alert them to the possible impact upon the senior community living on the Abbeyfield side of the park. Southwark Council's Cabinet had requested The Friends attend a meeting to discuss further. A report back will be given to next meeting.	Gary Glover Pat Kingwell
5.	Dr. Salter Statue Amanda Squires reported The Friends had met with Council officers as part of the consultation about possible replacement of the art work and potential locations. Other groups and individuals will also be encouraged to make their views known before a final decision is made. Amanda reminded about next Salter statue meeting in The	

	Angel pub on 4 th March.	
6.	<p>Park Manager's Report Andrea Pita reported on a range of issues:</p> <p>Southwark Park</p> <p><u>Bowling Green – Artificial Rink</u> - no further work has been undertaken to date, due to the exceptionally cold weather.</p> <p><u>Bowling Green – Pavilion Roof</u> - we are currently awaiting feedback from Resa Mehmet – Repairs & Maintenance and Henderson regarding an example of where felt has been used elsewhere.</p> <p><u>Tree Issues – Southwark Park</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Arboricultural Officer has inspected the coronation tree and will be arranging for a couple of the stumps to be cut down to ground level, although they are very close to the railings and this will hinder the operation, as one of the stumps has actually grown over the railings. The tree will need to be replaced sometime in the future, as it is in decline. • It appears the developer in the land of the former working man's club has cut back some overhanging tree branches, although there is no proof of this. Perhaps Corinne Turner could investigate this! • The two missing young staked trees in the children's playground will be replaced in the 2013 planting season. <p><u>Lake Pump</u> - we are currently awaiting feedback from Resa Mehmet – Repairs & Maintenance and Henderson regarding the electricians who are due to carry out a full investigation of the electrical problems.</p> <p><u>Community Wildlife Garden</u> - Georgia Villalobos - London Wildlife Trust has worked on a conservation project in the garden with a couple of groups on 13th / 14th February.</p> <p><u>Lake/Island Maintenance</u> - QSL have been reminded of their responsibility to remove litter from the lake on a daily basis. A site meeting has taken with Jon Best to view the perimeter island beds and a further meeting will now be arranged with a representative from TRUE (Trust for Urban Ecology) to discuss a number of options, the main emphasis being to cut out the Buddleia. However it was felt the willow branches overhanging the water near the viewing area by the Ada Salter Garden should remain in situ as they are beneficial to wildlife.</p> <p><u>Hawkstone Road Car Park</u> - a joint site inspection of the park took place with QSL on 31st January and a number of outstanding operations were identified, including the maintenance of the car park.</p> <p><u>Children's Playground</u> - the Repairs & Maintenance SWT (Small Works Team) have confirmed there are no current faults with the roundabout although there are loose rivets in the aluminium base plate of the sprung standing rocker in the corner and this has been recorded and is due to be repaired in the near future. It is not considered to be dangerous to use at present.</p> <p><u>Stakeholder Meetings</u> - the minutes of the previous meeting have been drafted, but they have yet to be circulated. The next meeting will be held in March and the date will be confirmed as soon as possible.</p>	

	<p>King's Stairs Gardens</p> <p><u>Tree Issues – King's Stairs Gardens</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TFL have asked for a large overhanging limb of the silver birch to be cut back by Rotherhithe roundabout, as it is in danger of splitting and falling on to the road and fence. • Three dead cherry trees are due to be felled and two medium diseased birch will also be felled in the near future. • The Arboricultural Officer will be alerting the Planning department as there is a TPO in KSG. <p><u>Damaged Lamp Column</u> - it is envisaged that the replacement lamp column will be connected by EDF in the near future. Although a meeting was requested at the previous meeting to view the condition of the lighting throughout the site, to date this has yet to be arranged.</p> <p><u>Fountain Green/Bermondsey Wall East</u> - a Senior Officer-Environmental Enforcement has confirmed that a land registry search has already been performed allowing access to the details of the owner of the property and that if direct contact cannot be made, a letter will be written to the owner offering them the opportunity to attend an interview at the Castlemead offices, in order to investigate the fly tip issue further.</p>	
7.	<p>Photography Project Update</p> <p>Pat Kingwell reported that the project was on target and within budget. The exhibition will be held at The Gallery from 17-25th March. A number of members volunteered to be available in the Gallery during the exhibition, and Pat agreed to set up a rota.</p>	Pat Kingwell
8.	<p>King's Stairs Gardens Issues</p>	
8.1	<p>Jubilee Stone</p> <p>Amanda Squires reported that artists from Goldsmith's College are involved and design options will come back to the group for discussion. A possible unveiling date is 13th November and both Simon Hughes and Michael Daniels are exploring their contacts for a special guest. Potential to link in with a new Jubilee tree in Southwark Park.</p> <p>William Cameron confirmed King's Stairs Action Group will be involved.</p>	
9.	<p>Bowling Club Update</p> <p>Jim Saunders mentioned that after many years he is now winding down his green keeper role at the club.</p> <p><u>Replacement roof</u> - it was agreed a felt replacement is out of the question for a Grade 2 Listed amenity. Support for Eternit slate option.</p> <p><u>Artificial rink</u> – the concern remains that the damage caused by moss may have gone beyond repair.</p>	
10.	<p>Gallery Update</p> <p>None given</p>	
11.	<p>Planning Matters Update</p>	
11.1	<p>122-124 Lower Road -The Yellow House (Ref: 04-AP-1160)</p> <p>Although Southwark Council had confirmed that the access gate from the property to the park is unauthorised still no evidence of its removal or closing up. Agreed we chase Dennis Sangweme (LBS).</p>	Pat Kingwell
11.2	<p>Opposite 147 Lower Road – Advertising Signs (Ref:11/AP/3346)</p> <p>This case remains undecided.</p>	
12.	<p>Finances</p> <p>Marjorie Hill reported that we are in funds.</p>	
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
13.1	<p>Event Application by Breast Cancer Campaign Girls v Boys Run on Sunday 20th</p>	

	<p>May There was no objection to the holding of this relatively small-scale event provided all the normal event management requirements are in place. It was agreed The Friends might want to have a presence on the day, such as a stall.</p>	
13.2	<p>Outdoor Gym William Cameron commented on the success of the gym and the meeting agreed another one near Scout House/Christchurch Gate would be welcomed.</p>	
14.	<p>Dates of Future General Meetings 14th March 2012 18th April 2012 All 6.00pm at The Park Office, near to the Cafe in Southwark Park</p>	



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9th February 2012

Dear John Benton,

'I Love Jamaica Day' Event

Thank you very much for attending our Special Meeting on Monday, and also for arranging for the applicants for the above event to be present. We are pleased to be part of the consultation and feel it was a helpful meeting at which information was shared. We believe that our main matters of interest came over clearly, but to recap, for the event to be successful the questions we think the organisers and Southwark Council should address include:

Infrastructure and capacity

1. Can the park accommodate such a potentially large event and are the right measures in place to ensure that there will not be any detrimental damage to the environment? A target audience of 13,000 is much larger than most Southwark Park events, so we would want to be convinced that all necessary services are in place to cater for them.
2. Particular attention needs to be paid to control of vehicles in the park; adherence to routing and load-bearing stipulations and the use of protective tracking.
3. Have the organisers a good record of event management and do they have sufficient resources to carry out post-event rectification if needed? What level of bond is being specified?

Public Access

4. Can the limitations on access to the park before and after the event be reviewed in order to maximise access for our park users? The suggested five days build-up and breakdown seems to us to be too long a period for people to be denied their regular access.
5. Can the organisers be clearer about which parts of the park will be available for use by those not attending the event? For instance, at present it appears from the plans that on the day of the event itself that people wishing to use the cafe, playground, art gallery and lake may have to pass through a security barrier? We suggest the organisers think through the logistics of separating paying and non-paying park users and redraw their event boundary line in order to avoid contention.

Paid Event

6. Does the event have to be a paid one? While we understand the need to plan for and control the number of visitors, this will be a major departure from a very long-held practice of events in Southwark Park where cost has not been a barrier to the community. We are concerned about the setting of a precedent which may price out families and those on low incomes. If the day is to be as inclusive as possible we would ask the organisers to review this issue.

Income

7. While we support the aims of the organisers in raising funds for their chosen charities we ask that Southwark Park should also directly benefit from any income from the event. We have a range of suggestions of how money can be used to improve the park and would be happy to pass those on to the organisers and the Council.

Security

8. The scale of the proposed event will inevitably require very good security. This applies not simply to the park itself, but also to its environs. We urge the organisers and Council to consult on a detailed security plan which meets the needs of park users and the community.

Transport and Traffic

9. We appreciate the view of the organisers that public transport should be the main way of getting to the event, but experience over many years shows that cars will be used. We ask that a comprehensive traffic management plan for the day is produced and consulted upon so that the park neighbours lives, particularly those in Gomm Road and nearby estates, are not badly disrupted by the event.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Kingwell
Secretary
The Friends of Southwark Park