**Agenda and Notes of Meeting held on 26th January 2011**

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Patron: Simon Hughes M.P.

Chairperson: Gary Glover

Vice-Chairperson: Amanda Squires

Secretary: Pat Kingwell

Treasurer: Marjorie Hill

Assistant Treasurer: Ron Henocq

Membership: Corinne Turner

**General Meeting**

**26th January 2011 6.00pm at**

**Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall New Place Square, Southwark Park Road**

**Agenda**

**1. Apologies**

**2. Notes of meeting of 3rd November 2010 and Matters Arising (see Attachment 1)**

**3. Park Manager’s Report - Rosie Thornton**

**4. Park Standard’s Officer Report - Nina Chantry**

**5. King’s Stairs Gardens Update**

**6. Membership - Corinne Turner**

**7. Finances - Marjorie Hill**

**8. Project Updates - to receive progress reports on:**

* **Bowling Club works**
* **former nursery clearance works**
* **Sports Centre**
* **Outdoor gym**

**9. Planning Updates – to receive latest on:**

* **Conversion of former working men’s club on western boundary into flats**
* **Caryatids relocation**

**10. Any Other Business**

**11. Dates of Future Meetings**

Pat Kingwell-Secretary

16th January 2011

**Attachment 1**



Patron: Simon Hughes M.P.

Chairperson: Gary Glover

Vice-Chairperson: Amanda Squires

Membership Secretary: Corinne Turner

Secretary: Pat Kingwell

Treasurer: Marjorie Hill

Assistant Treasurer: Ron Henocq

**Notes of Friends of Southwark Park General Meeting**

**held on 26th January 2011 at**

 **Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall**

**In attendance:**

M. Bellinger; A. Bridges; William Cameron; Alan Camp (Alan Camp Architects); Alison Clayburn; Gary Glover; Kathy Hennessy; Marjorie Hill; Pat Kingwell; Gary Magold; Arlene Powell; Jim Saunders; Christine Savory; Tracy Scales; Sue Sexton; Colin Smith; Ben Sztainbok (London Borough Southwark); Rosie Thornton (London Borough Southwark); Corinne Turner; Susan Vaughan; G. Witsey.

**1. Apologies**

Pauline Adenwalla; Cllr. Anood Al-Samerai; Philip Burkett; Nina Chantry; Ron Henocq; Jerry Hewitt; Mairi Mills; Cllr. Lisa Rajan; Donna Spedding; Amanda Squires; Rebecca Towers.

**2. Notes of meeting of 3rd November 2010 and Matters Arising**

The notes were agreed and the following matters arose:

EDF Monies – £40,000 is with Southwark and to be signed over to Rosie Thornton by March. Friends to consider how money might be used.

Tennis Courts – idea of applying for Cleaner, Greener Safer funds on hold as it is not yet clear if funds will be available in 2011/12

**3. Park Manager’s Report**

Rosie Thornton reported on:

Franklin Close illegal access to park– Rosie said the issue of illegal access though private gates is being looked at across the board for all parks.

Green Flag Award – Southwark Park currently has the award, and will be entered again.

Park Management and Action Plan – is up for renewal – Friends to contribute to the vision for the park – Rosie to advise when.

Dilston Grove Finger posts – about to be ordered.

Film Income – Rosie confirmed there is £2360 available to be spent on the park. It seems allocation to the park from film income is about 5%, which the meeting considered to be far too low. Agreed a meeting with the Film Team be set up to discuss possible changes.

Cycling – continuing concerns expressed over the speed of cyclists in the park.

Wildflower Meadow – Rosie indicated that it cost c£5600 to seed the area, and that the life span is about 3 or 4 years, so re-seeding may soon be necessary. However, she also alerted the meeting to a proposal from a power company to take over that portion of the park for a deep tunnelling operation to locate electric cables. This provoked considerable discussion, and it was agreed to ask Parks Services for more details.

Parks Budget meeting – a re-organisation of the Parks Service is due to be carried out and the impact of expenditure cuts would be discussed in a February meeting.

**4. Park Standards Officer Report**

Nina Chantry sent an e-mail:

“The update on Grounds Maintenance could be very brief and as follows: Since the last FoSP meeting the Quadron team has been busy with leaf clearance (and snow clearance!).  They expect to have finished by the end of the month and will then be able to focus on some winter jobs such as winter edging, mulching and pruning shrub beds.”

**5. King’s Stairs Gardens Update**

Gary Glover gave an account of developments since the last meeting and indicated that a walkabout would be a good idea to look at maintenance, lighting and any other issues.

William Cameronreported thatthere would be a King’s Stairs Gardens Nature Day on Sunday 27th March from noon.

**6. Membership**

Corinne Turner reported that the Bede House option had worked as an address for membership forms, so it was agreed to continue with that arrangement until we have developed our own website or another alternative.

**7. Finances**

Marjorie Hill and Pat Kingwell circulated a financial statement covering the period 16th March 2010 -29th November 2011, which showed a balance of £3618.37.

**8. Project Updates - progress reports were received on:**

Bowling Club works

* Turf and irrigation system completed. Colin Smith asked about the placing of a plaque by the artificial surface, which was part of the contract.
* Roof – quotes for replacement have come back in excess of £20,000 so will need to be tendered

Former nursery clearance works

* Christine Wildhaber from Southwark Council had informed us that clearance works were due to commence w/b 24th January, and that a letter had been circulated to nearby residents informing them.
* A lively discussion followed, with a number of views, both for and against the clearance works. Some residents of Gomm Road, whose homes back on to the former nursery, expressed their concerns about future security. Others asked about the impact of the clearance on wildlife.
* There was common agreement that Southwark Council must consult fully with local people, and some concern that, as yet, little progress has been made on defining a future use of the site.

Sports Centre

* Jay Yeats, of Southwark Council, had sent an e-mail and advised: “The project for the track is dormant at the moment because the Council wishes to be certain that it can properly fund and achieve a scheme at the site before it applies for a new planning permission. I currently have two bids into the Council's capital programme for this scheme:

a) A 2 million pound bid for a modest scheme which will restore the track and the astro with a refresh of the changing facilities.

b) A 5 million pound bid which would almost achieve everything we wanted in the previous scheme but without the contentious MUGAs demanded by the Football Foundation.

Things have developed since the bids were made and we have a couple of options. If we were to get the £2 million we would probably be able to top that up with £250K from the Mayor's Legacy Fund and maybe as much as £100K from the London Marathon. We could also 'bank' that funding and apply (in autumn 2011), for up to £2 million from the People, Places, Play fund that has recently been announced making a £4 million (plus) scheme in total.

I will have a better idea of what we are actually doing once a decision has been made by Cabinet on Capital Funding in February.”

A brief discussion followed during which the sorry state of the sports centre was bemoaned, and it was also suggested that should the Southwark Council funding referred to by Jay Yeats not be forthcoming, then a review of the future use of the site should be undertaken. The site has been an eyesore in the park for far too long, and cannot be allowed to remain so indefinitely.

Outdoor gym

* It has been successfully implemented and appears to be well used.

**9. Planning Updates – we received latest on:**

386 Southwark Park Road (Planning Application 10/AP/2308) - conversion of former working men’s club - Alan Camp, from Alan Camp Architects spoke about the scheme, which proposed to convert the existing Southwark Park Club building into a four-storey high mix of apartments and social club Alan took several questions about the design, in particular the height and relationship of the boundary with the park.

Caryatids relocation – Andrea Allen of Southwark Council updated by e-mail that quotes for

cleaning and then moving the statues off the Heygate Estate, and subsequent installation, had been obtained from DBR (David Ball Restoration) Ltd. The structural engineer had got the ball rolling to get a quote for the underground works - concrete bases or rafts for load – and the arborist was due to arrange site visit to check on the tree roots and proposed works. An order for the sign board was due to be placed with Browse Bion. The outcome of the HLF Lottery application was due and she hoped to be on site in March.

**10. Any Other Business**

Planning Policy

* Ben Sztainbok from Southwark Council gave an explanation of the Council’s Planning Policy.

Website

* A discussion on need to create a Friends website. Corinne said she would investigate further.

The Event 2011

* Clarification needed from Southwark Council if the annual summer event is to take place this year.

“Our Park” Project

* A report was circulated by Pat Kingwell.

**11. Dates of Future Meetings**

Annual General Meeting **–** this is currently scheduled for Tuesday 26th April 2011, but due to various commitments it was suggested it be re-scheduled to the first week in May. To be discussed at next General meeting.