

Patron: Rt. Hon. Simon Hughes M.P. www.friendsofsouthwarkpark.co.uk/ ourpark@live.co.uk

**Committee Members** 

Sharon Bassey Barry Duckett Jean Cunliffe Dave Fisher Gary Glover (Chairperson) Ron Henocq (Assistant Treasurer) Marjorie Hill (Assistant Treasurer) Pat Kingwell (Secretary) Gary Magold (Treasurer) Jean Mulholland (Membership Secretary) John Reid Sue Sexton Amanda Squires (Vice-Chairperson)

General Meeting Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 6.00pm at the Park Office

Agenda

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Notes of General Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> February and Matters Arising (attached)
- 3. London City Athletics Club Denise Mountain/Edwin Mooiman/Amy Murtagh
- 4. The Shine Event 2015 Miranda Clarke/Scott Renken/Michaela Brice
- 5. Park Manager's Report Andy Chatterton
- 6. The Bubble Theatre 'After Hiroshima' Project Ruth Dewa
- 7. Friends of Southwark Park Activities Programme 2015 Pat Kingwell
- 8. Cleaner, Greener, Safer Programme Update
- 9. Bowling Club Update
- 10. West Lane War Memorial Issues
- 11. King's Stairs Gardens Issues

Planning Matters Update
 Key Projects Update – (attached)
 Any Other Business
 Dates of Future Meetings

Pat Kingwell Secretary 4 March 2015

#### Notes of General Meeting of 18th February 2015

**Present:** Sharon Bassey; Andy Chatterton (London Borough of Southwark); Cllr. Stephanie Cryan; Jean Cunliffe; Dave Fisher; Jill Gibbs; Gary Glover; Colin Hartridge-Price; Marjorie Hill; Simon Kenward; Pat Kingwell; Mike Krotosky; Cllr. Sunny Lambe; Gary Magold; John Mannering; Andrea Pita (London Borough of Southwark); David Potter; Jim Saunders; Tracy Scales; Sue Sexton; Colin Smith; Amanda Squires; Rebecca Towers (London Borough of Southwark); Eleder Varon; Cllr Kath Whittam; Cllr. Bill Williams and George Witsey

#### Action Item 1. **Apologies** Henry Abrahams; Cllr. Anood Al-Samerai; Alison Clayburn; Cllr. Neil Coyle; Judith Deschamps; Simon Hughes M.P.; Jim Lodge and Stephanie Lodge 2. Notes of General Meeting of 19th November 2014 The notes were agreed as a true record except for Jean Mulholland apologies. 2.1 **Matters** Arising Southwark Park Club 2.1.1 George Witsey asked if there was any news about the re-opening of the social club which was part of the former Working Men's Club development. Pat Pat agreed to make enquiries with Southwark Planning. 2.1.2 **Boris Bikes** Cllr Cryan said she had pursued the suggestion of bikes near the park, but had received little encouragement from the Mayor's office. She would speak with Val Shawcross our Greater London Authority representative. 2.1.3 **Grosvenor Estate Trees** Andy Chatterton reported that Kate Nottidge of Grosvenor Estates had visited the park and had a look at potential tree planting sites with Tree Officer and

some FOSP members. It was decided to plant alongside the China Hall boundary. See also item 13 Key Projects Update below.

#### 2.1.4 **Fireworks Event Report**

Andy said he had yet to receive the post-event evaluation report, which is still with the Events team. It was agreed to ask John Benton about it. Subsequent to the meeting John Benton advised that feedback has been gathered from FOSP, members of the event liaison team from the event, plus the audience. All of this information has been discussed at the de-briefing and recorded to be used once planning begins, but there is no formal report. Once work begins on the 2015 event he would be very happy to hold an early meeting with FOSP and other stakeholders in the park to discuss the development of the event plans.

#### 2.1.5 **Southwark Park Scout's Field Trees**

The meeting asked for clarification of the Council's plans for trees in that area. Subsequent to the meeting Ian Williams emailed to confirm that some lime trees have been removed due to disease and that they are not linked to the Millstream Hose development.

#### 3. **Old Nursery Plan Update**

Rebecca Towers, Head of Parks gave an update on the project. £2m has been allocated to the project subject to Cabinet approval. Three initial options for a new café/office and Old Nursery uses were outlined and display boards and questionnaires were available. The consultation programme was explained with a meeting with very local residents on 3<sup>rd</sup> March; a report back to FOSP and Stakeholder Group by May; thereafter procurement of architects and contractors; with a build targeted for mid/late 2016.

In discussion thanks were given to the Council for moving the project forward. It was agreed to:

**Kingwell** 

#### Cllr. Cryan

- <sup>35</sup> write to Rebecca formally about FOSP role in the future project
- <sup>35</sup> have the display boards at the King's Stairs Action Group AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> March
- $^{35}_{17}$  have the boards on display in The Blue on 14<sup>th</sup> March

#### 4. Cleaner Greener Safer Programme

It was confirmed that Southwark Park has been allocated £12,500 to improve the bandstand and to provide an observation bee hive and that £33,000 has been awarded to complete the Cathay/Fulford Street works. Thanks given to the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council.

#### 5. Park Manager's Report Andy Chatterton reported:

- 5.1 Southwark Park South Western Boundary See item 13 Key Projects Update below
- 5..2 Southwark Park Frankland Close Unauthorised Access See item 13 Key Projects Update below
- **5..3** Southwark Park Caryatides Lectern Browse Bion have replaced the damaged lectern.
- 5.4 Southwark Park Jabez West Memorial Taps
- A contractor has sourced suitable taps which will be in place soon.

### 5.5 Southwark Park – Cycling

The Parks Liaison Officer has continued to monitor cycling in the park and will advise of any concerns as and when they occur. At the previous meeting it was felt that cyclists heading towards Gomm Road / China Hall Gates from Jamaica Road in the evenings should also be monitored and this will commence now that the park is closing later.

#### 5.6 Southwark Park – Cycle Racks

New cycle racks (3 groups of 4) have been installed opposite the tennis courts, inside the children's playground and at the side of Dilston Grove.

#### 5.7 Southwark Park Car Parking Review.

The current main areas of concern are detailed below:-

#### Road through Southwark Park

Parking in the through road has become a serious issue over the past year, since the commencement of the two year refurbishment project of New Place Estate. Although the traffic gates are now opened at 8am instead of by 7.30am, contractors drive their vehicles into the park as soon as the gates open, which often limits the number of spaces for regular park users.

- <sup>35</sup> Vehicles park inside Southwark Park very close to the incoming and outgoing traffic gates restricting access for emergency and grounds maintenance contractor vehicles.
- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Vehicles are regularly left overnight in the carriageway.
- <sup>35</sup> Vehicles park in front of the traffic barrier by the park café, blocking emergency access.
- <sup>35</sup> Vehicles park in front of the access route which leads directly to the bowling green and the bandstand.

#### Hawkstone Road Car Park

- <sup>35</sup> Contractors regularly leave their vehicles in the car park when working in the vicinity of Canada Water.
- $\frac{35}{17}$  Vehicles park in disabled bays without permits.
- <sup>35</sup> Vehicles park outside lined bays which creates problems for park users and the grounds maintenance contractor.
- <sup>35</sup> Vehicles are regularly left overnight in the car park, as the owners have not been issued with residential parking permits.

#### <mark>Andy</mark> Chatterton

Pat

**Kingwell** 

Tim Walker, the Senior Engineer – Public Realm Projects (Parking Design Team) has confirmed that the project which commenced in January 15, is being undertaken as part of the Canada Water Parking Project and it is due to be implemented in January 2016, with the following key milestones:

Survey – January / February 2015 Community Council Meeting – March 2015 Design – April / May 2015 Consultation – May / June 2015 Analysis – June / July 2015 Decision Making – October 2015 Traffic Orders – November 2015 Implementation – December 2015 / January 2016

## It was agreed to invite Tim Walker to a future meeting. Southwark Park - Terrapins The Facher of Source chiese that there is a real source of the source of t

The Ecology Officer advises that there is no real concern with terrapins in the lake but further information can be provided at the next meeting, if necessary.

### 5.9 King's Stairs Gardens – Tree Damage

Polite notices have yet to be applied to trees advising Parks Users of the harm that dog damage can cause, but this will be done within the week. The Parks Tree Officer has yet to confirm whether or not a spray can be applied to trees.

## 5.10 King's Stairs Gardens – Dangerous Cycling

The Parks Liaison Officers are currently reviewing options to control cycling in King's Stairs Gardens, especially between 1 Fulford Street and The Angel Public House and a full update will be provided at the next meeting.

#### 5.11 King's Stairs Gardens - Summer Meadow Areas The area close to Rotherhithe Roundabout is to be enlarged next month and it

will be fenced off for an interim period in order to allow for establishment.

5.12 King's Stairs Gardens - 14 King Stairs Close – Unauthorised Access The unauthorised access has yet to be resolved.

### 5.13 King's Stairs Gardens - Notice Board

A notice board has been installed outside the children's playground and will be managed by Parks. It will contain LBS Staff contact details, some information about the site and where space allows it will show random local events.

## 6. Friends of Southwark Park Activities Programme 2015

Pat reported that an application had been made to the Council's Neighbourhood Fund to put on 13 activities over the summer and beyond, including: bandstand performances, guided walks, Bobby Abel Cricket Cup for primary schools, a tennis day on the new courts; a First World War memorial adult cricket match and a Black History Month activity. Decision will be made by Community Council in March.

## 7. Bowling Club Update

Monthly meetings with the Parks and Quadron staff have started again. First game of the season will be in mid-April, and match against Finsbury Park probably in May.

### 8. West Lane War Memorial Issues

Gary Magold reported that some of the lettering on the memorial needs replacing. Andy agreed to check.

### 9. King's Stairs Gardens Issues

Simon Kenward said Save King's Stairs Action Group AGM is on 11 March.

Roger Bilder has moved to Norfolk – thanks for his efforts over the years.

Pat Kingwell

<mark>Andy</mark> Chatterton

<mark>Andy</mark> Chatterton

<mark>Andy</mark> Chatterton

<mark>Andy</mark> Chatterton Andy reported the meadow area is to be enlarged

**In discussion** it was said quite a lot of people are unaware of the park's official name. A request was made for better information through signage for the various entrances into KSG and also a simple transfer to be placed on the litter bins with KSG name and Millennium Green status. Andy agreed to investigate.

## **10. Planning Matters Update** None reported.

#### 11. Key Projects Update

An update of key projects was given and will be amended for each meeting. In discussion it was agreed to invite Rachel Roe to our next meeting for an update on the Dolphins project. It was also agreed to ask Cllr. Barrie Hargrove to formally open the sculptures when they are ready.

#### 12. Any Other Business

#### 12.1 Tree Stumps Project

Eleder Varon spoke about a project to use tree stumps around the area as art works. The meeting liked the idea so it was agreed he, Andy, Ian Williams (the Park's Arboricultural Officer) and Pat meet to look at the feasibility of a pilot project in Southwark Park.

#### 12.2 10k Run

Gary Magold reported the 10k Run will be in Southwark Park on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

#### 12.3 Bowling Green Hedges

Marjorie said the hedges look very good, but is it possible to plant some berries in them. Andy to check.

#### 12.4 'It's Our Park' and 'We Was All One' Film Shows

Pat reported the forthcoming free film shows at Sands Films Studio on 7<sup>th</sup> March. Free booking may be made online at: http://www.sandsfilms.co.uk/Sands\_Films\_Studio/Cinema\_Club.html

#### 12.5 Annual Report

Copies of the Annual Report were available. Some had been put in Blue Anchor and Canada Water libraries. Thanks to Debra Gosling for design.

# Dates of Future Meetings 2015 - All Wednesdays 6.00pm at The Park Office unless otherwise notified 18th March 2015; 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015; 20th May 2015; 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015; 15th July

18th March 2015; 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015; 20th May 2015; 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015; 15th July 2015

<mark>Pat</mark> Kingwell

Andy

**Chatterton** 

Andy Pat Ian Eledor



#### Key Projects Update – March 2014

#### **Project Description**

- 1 Southwark Park Sports Centre Refurbishment After a decade of decline the centre is undergoing a major refurbishment. Works include a new athletics track and improved changing facilities.
- 2 Southwark Park Old Nursery Master Plan In 2013 the Council's CGS Programme awarded FOSP £20k to develop a plan to bring the Old Nursery site back into park use and to also improve the café, toilet and office provision. The aim of the plan is to help secure capital funding. The delivery of the Master Plan is over a year behind the original target date
- 3 Southwark Park Unauthorised Access from Frankland Close

FOSP called for action over unauthorised access from properties on the boundaries of the park, in particular from Frankland Close.

4 Southwark Park Relocation of 'Family of Dolphins' Sculpture

> David Backhouse's sculpture was gifted to the Council by Tesco, Surrey Quays and a new home was sought. A feasibility study led the Council agreeing Southwark Park lake for relocation. In October 2014 we were advised that an engineering solution was being sought and that discussions were taking place with FM Conway contractors, who were subsequently appointed. They are developing a system which will both weight the sculpture and not puncture any lining to the lake. Planning permission will be applied for, once the drawing has been provided. In the meanwhile the dolphins are being made ready for the installation by a conservator. Installation was estimated for the end of March.

## 5 Southwark Park south-western boundary improvements

In October 2014 we agreed that improvements to the boundary were needed. We asked if the Maydew House redevelopment scheme might provide a solution and also reported an offer made by Grosvenor Estates to resource trees and/or other environmental improvements for the park It was agreed to seek support from Grosvenor for about 30 new trees.

6 Southwark Park New Tennis Courts In November 2012 FOSP applied to the Council's CGS programme for two new hard courts. The scheme was approved in July 2013, but additional funding had to be found. In March 2014 MSC Consultants were appointed to progress the scheme. Planning a pproval was obtained on 10 January 2015.

#### **Current Position**

Planning approval is near sign-off. Blakedown Group have been appointed as contractors. Works are due to commence in February/March 2015 and complete in summer 2015. The Head of Parks attended FOSP meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February and advised there are 3 initial options for a new café/office and Old Nursery out for consultation, which will end on 14<sup>th</sup> Marc. A report back to FOSP and Stakeholder Group by May; thereafter procurement of architects and contractors; with a build targeted for mid/late 2016.

All of the unauthorised access points have now been sealed up.

Rachel Roe advises unfortunately there are delays with the contractor, due to a change in staffing. She is chasing on a weekly basis, but not getting prompt responses. The March installation is unlikely.

Once she is clearer when it will happen we can absolutely arrange an opening ceremony. David Backhouse was informed that we are working towards installing the work in the park and will be contacted again once for the launch.

#### The key issues are getting planning permission and then for the contractor to progress the scheme.

It has been decided to use the Grosvenor trees on the China Hall side of the park following a site visit by representatives of Grosvenor Estates, Parks and the Friends of Southwark Park. Appropriate species have been chosen. The Grosvenor team are available on 12<sup>th</sup> March and 19<sup>th</sup> March to assist with the planting of the trees and they await confirmation of the preferred date to do so. **The issue therefore remains of how to improve the south-western boundary.** 

Key milestones of the project are; Out to tender week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015 Return of tenders 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 Evaluation and Gateway 2 award 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 Commence works 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 (subject to GW2 sign off) Works 12 week programme end of works 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015 Opening 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015.