



Patron: Rt. Hon. Simon Hughes M.P.

Chairperson: Gary Glover

Vice-Chairperson: Amanda Squires

Secretary: Pat Kingwell

Treasurer: Gary Magold

Assistant Treasurers: Ron Henocq and Marjorie Hill

Membership Secretary: Vacant

Committee Members:

Jean Cunliffe; Michael Daniels; Dave Fisher; Marjorie Hill; Sue Sexton-Figgins; Susan Vaughan

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General Meeting

**Wednesday 15th May 2013 6.00pm at
The Park Office, Southwark Park**

Agenda

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Notes of General Meeting of 24th April and Matters Arising (attached)**
- 3. Tree Health Survey Volunteering – Eleanor Reast (Open Air Laboratories Project)**
- 4. Southwark Council's Tree Strategy and Southwark Park – Gary Meadowcroft (LBS Tree Services Manager)**
- 5. Cleaner, Greener Safer Applications Update – Gary Glover**
- 6. Park Manager's Report – Andy Chatterton LBS**
- 7. The Southwark Park Act 1864 – 150th Anniversary Lottery Bid – Pat Kingwell**
- 8. Bowling Club Update – Ray Buckberry**
- 9. King's Stairs Gardens Issues – Roger Bilder**
- 10. Gallery Update – Ron Henocq**
- 11. Planning Matters – updates if any**
- 12. Outstanding Issues (attached)**
- 13. Any Other Business**
- 14. Dates of Future Meetings**

Pat Kingwell
Secretary
1st May 2013



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**Notes of Friends of Southwark Park General Meeting
held on 24th April 2013 at
The Park Office, Southwark Park**

In attendance:

Sharon Basse; Ray Buckberry; William Cameron; Andy Chatterton (London Borough of Southwark); Miranda Clarke (London Borough of Southwark); Alison Clayburn; Jean Cunliffe; Judith Deschamps; Ivy Douglas; Dave Fisher; Gary Glover; Colin Hartridge-Price; Ron Henocq; Marjorie Hill; Pat Kingwell; Gary Magold; Andrea Pita (London Borough of Southwark); Jim Saunders; Tracey Scales; Sue Sexton –Figgins; Colin Smith; Amanda Squires; Graham Taylor; George Witsey; Edward ?

	Item	Action
1.	Apologies Cllr. Anood Al-Samerai; Roger Bilder; Michael Daniels; Cllr. Barrie Hargrove; Simon Hughes M.P.; Cllr. Wilma Nelson; Cllr. Lisa Rajan; Sheila Taylor; Susan Vaughan	
2.	Notes of General Meeting of 20th March 2013 The notes were agreed as a true record.	
2.1	Matters Arising	
2.1.1	Firework Display The Events Team had provided a copy of the Council's debriefing report. The intention is to continue to hold the event in Southwark Park taking on board all of our concerns.	
2.1.2	Dogs – Good Owner Campaign Andy Chatterton confirmed the intention to carry out the campaign in Southwark Park in the summer in conjunction with Susan Hunter and Ruth Backhurst.	Andy Chatterton
3.	Bee Observation Hive – Sharon Basse Sharon explained that she was attending in a private capacity to seek support in gaining funds for an observation hive in the wildlife area near the wormery site. Sharon was advised that our own funds are stretched but we could help with an application to external bodies such as the North Southwark Environment Trust and United St. Saviours Trust. It was also suggested that Parks could apply to the next round of Cleaner, Greener Safer funding.	
4.	London Oktoberfest 3-6 October 2013 Consultation – Miranda Clarke (LBS Events) Miranda did not have a full application and detailed site plans to hand but did brief the meeting on the proposal from London Oktoberfest to run a commercial traditional Bavarian stage show and drinking event in the northern sector of Southwark Park on a site between the Christchurch and Paradise Gates. This would take place in a large marquee bounded by a picket fence. Admission would be for adults only except on Sunday 6 th when families could attend. On Saturday 5 th an admission fee would be charged, but not on other days. Attendances are predicted at 1500, with 2000 on Saturday. Miranda confirmed that before any permission is given an Advisory Group including police and other agencies would have to review the application. In the discussion many issues were raised including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charging of an admission fee for a strictly commercial goes against the 	

	<p>tradition of free events in the park and The Friends long-held policy on this matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed longer opening hours may impact on park neighbours and do not square with those applied to the Bermondsey Carnival • Access to rest of park for general public not visiting the event to be clarified • Appropriate level of reinstatement bond to be clarified • Toilet provision to be clarified • Are local people seen as customers of the event • Impact on area of large numbers leaving the park after the event <p>It was agreed to ask a representative of London Oktoberfest to attend a future meeting with more detailed plans.</p>	Miranda Clarke
5.	<p>Stroke Association Three Bridges Cycle Ride 12th May Miranda briefed the meeting on the charity ride which has been well run in Southwark Park in the past. This year the cyclists are in the park from 8am-10am.</p>	
6.	<p>Park Manager's Report Andy Chatterton reported on a number of issues:</p>	
6.1	<p><u>Southwark Park Lake Condition</u> The Conservation Volunteers will be undertaking a further dredging exercise within a few weeks and this will be supported by volunteers from the FoSP. Ben Dewhurst will confirm a date a week beforehand to ensure the Friends are notified well in advance.</p>	
6.2	<p><u>Southwark Park Parkrun</u> A meeting has been arranged for 25th April with Cat Attfield and David White (Run! Athletics Activator- Southwark) to progress with Parkrun. The installation of distance markers to assist runners in the park will be discussed.</p>	
6.3	<p><u>Southwark Park Children's Playground – Water Feature</u> Although a contractor has confirmed the electrical supply is fine, the pump has yet to be checked. It is hoped that facility will be functional again in the near future.</p>	
6.4	<p><u>Southwark Park Bowling Green Maintenance</u> A meeting took place with representatives from the Bowls Club on 23rd April and QSL will ensure the relevant maintenance issues are dealt with as a matter of urgency. The minutes of the meeting will be produced and circulated as soon as possible.</p>	
6.5	<p><u>Southwark Park Tree Preservation Orders</u> It has been confirmed that the whole of the park is covered by a Tree Preservation Order.</p>	
6.6	<p><u>Southwark Park Café – Mosaic</u> The mosaic had to be removed recently as it was found to be in a dangerous condition. A full account of the condition has been provided by the contractor who undertook a thorough examination before they commenced the work. (see also 13.1 below)</p>	
6.7	<p><u>King's Stairs Gardens - Grounds Maintenance Issues</u> Recent issues have been addressed with the maintenance team and although some shrub pruning has been carried out, it has been undertaken in accordance with the specification. A representative from SKSAG has thanked the Parks Team for arranging for the work to be done, as it had been considered a serious H & S issue for quite sometime.</p> <p>As regards applying wood chippings to a desire line, the mobile team has been advised to only undertake works of this nature following instructions from their Supervisor or the Operational Area Authorised Officers. (see also 9. below)</p>	
6.8	<p><u>King's Stairs Gardens - Fit London Legacy Fund</u> A site meeting on 28th March discussed works for the 1st stage of the LLF and it was agreed that two meadow areas should be created in the large grass area in front of Cathay House and by the grass area close to Rotherhithe roundabout. This will commence next week. Both areas will be fenced off until establishment. Also, the existing butterfly border will be extended and a new border will be created and planted with bee loving plants following a recommendation from the Parks Ecology Officer and Southwark Park Head Gardener.</p>	
7.	<p>The Southwark Park Act 1864 – 150th Anniversary Event – Pat Kingwell Pat circulated a discussion paper on a potential Heritage Lottery Fund application to celebrate the passing of the Southwark Park Act and it was agreed to submit a bid in May.</p>	Pat Kingwell
8.	<p>Bowling Club Update Ray Buckberry reminded the meeting that the centenary celebration match with Finsbury Park takes place on 4th May from 2.30 on the green.</p>	

	<p>Ray said that a match with the Metropolitan Police is also on the cards later in the summer.</p> <p>Jim Saunders reported that the club had been approached about a match with people with disabilities and this would also be arranged.</p>	
9.	<p>King's Stairs Gardens Issues William Cameron reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that Save King's Stairs Action Group had submitted their comments to the Planning Inspectorate about the Thames Tunnel The new logs in Fulford Street had been installed and look good Work is being undertaken with bat boxes and stag beetles Some of the Cottle Way lighting is failing. Andy requested details of specific lighting column numbers <p>In the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The steel map near Braithwaite and Dean needs updating A desire line has existed for 28 years from the Mayflower Street private car park to Jamaica Road. Leaseholders in the flats who own the car park have asked that the desire line NOT be mulched despite people slipping in the mud. This has not been done for several years. This year the park team did mulch it and on enquiry by Gill Gibbs were told that FoSP and Amanda Squires had requested it. This statement has been refuted by both. The meeting agreed that either the path remained but needed to be made safe, or that the owners of the car park blocked access to the park. William Cameron was asked to relay this to Roger Bilder for him to make contact with Mary Watts who represents the residents of the flats. The legal status of a desire line for so many years needs to be clarified. A desire line from Cottle Way towards the river was established when the walkway was closed for building work at no 12/14 Kings Stairs Close. Cyclists have caused the Cottle Way end to become very muddy and the desire line cuts through the area used by children playing football. It was agreed that Andy consider extending the E rail along Cottle Way to deter cyclists but allow pedestrians and begin to make good the desire line by re-grassing. The desirability of the formation of a Friends of King's Stairs Gardens group was raised. Gary Glover reminded the meeting that this had been suggested before but had not been taken up by the King's Stairs Action Group. 	<p>William Cameron</p> <p>William Cameron</p> <p>Andy Chatterton</p>
10.	<p>Veolia EnviroGrant Application Pat Kingwell reported that he had submitted an application to Veolia for a grant to create a Southwark Park Children's Nature Trail leaflet. A decision should be known by June.</p>	
11.	<p>Planning Matters Update None raised</p>	
12.	<p>Gallery Update Ron Henocq reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite adverse weather conditions the gallery had 3,500 visitors in March/April A senior's art school is to be held in Dilston Grove The community allotments is open and had 18 visitors on first day A South Bank University exhibition is forthcoming Work on the sculpture on the lake island due to be completed by 18th May Dilston Grove bike racks and benches needs resolving Andy and Ron to meet 	<p>Andy Chatterton Ron Henocq</p>
13.	<p>Any Other Business</p>	
13.1	<p>Cafe Mosaic Concern was expressed about the lack of consultation or information provided before removal of the mosaic. There is also uncertainty over the whereabouts of the mosaic pieces, so it seems unlikely that it can be retrieved. It was agreed that Parks should liaise with the Gallery and advise Pilgrims Way Primary School of the situation.</p>	<p>Andrea Pita</p>
14.	<p>Dates of Future Meetings Wednesday 15th May 2013 Wednesday 19th June 2013 Wednesday 17th July 2013 All at 6.00pm at The Park Office</p>	

Item 12 Outstanding Issues

Some important issues raised over the past year remain unresolved. At the last meeting it was agreed to regularly flag them up on the agenda to encourage action.

	Subject	Issues	Action
1	Southwark Park Sports Centre Refurbishment	On this major capital project we have been advised that bids to external funders such as The Mayor of London, Sport England and UK Athletics have been submitted and that Southwark Council funding is in place. The scheme should be carried out in two phases – changing rooms first then track and pitch – with a target completion date of March 2014. We request an update.	Tim Clee
2	Southwark Park Sports Centre Boundary - Hawkstone Road	The Friends have requested that the Council consider re-incorporating a portion of land back into the body of the park for public use and that ground maintenance is transferred from Fusion to Quadron. We require an update on the negotiations between Fusion and the Council's Property team.	Rebecca Towers
3	Southwark Park Old Nursery Planning Designation and QE2 status	The Friends have requested that the Council consider how the Old Nursery can be afforded MOL status in line with the rest of the park and also that the question of Queen Elizabeth Field status be investigated.	Rebecca Towers
4	Southwark Park Scout House Development	Rydon Construction Limited plan to redevelop Scout House which borders on the park. We have invited Rydon to brief us on the content of the scheme. Our main concern is to ensure that there should be no entrance gate from the development into the park and that the relevant Planning Officer be advised.	Joe Tatham Development Surveyor Rydon
5	Southwark Park Former Lodge Lower Road	Planning approval has been given for a housing and complementary health centre development on the site. The Friends requested that the integrity of the park boundary is secured through planting or other landscaping means. We have been advised that planting is due in Spring 2013.	Andy Chatterton
6	Former Social Club 386 Southwark Park Road	A housing and social centre development is underway on the boundary of the park. The Friends are concerned that the integrity of the park boundary is secured and that there has been no loss of land.	Andy Chatterton
7	Southwark Park Mayor of London Trees	As the first municipal park opened in London The Friends proposed establishing a tradition of planting of a tree by each Mayor of London. Southwark Council's Arboricultural Officer indicated that Parks would be acting on the suggestion. We request an update.	Rebecca Towers