**Notes of Meeting held on 3rd November 2010**

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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 Special Meeting**

**held on 3rd November 2010 at**

**Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall**

**In attendance:**

Alison Clayburn; Gary Glover; Jerry Hewitt; Marjorie Hill; Pat Kingwell; Gary Magold; Miyoko Sasai; Jim Saunders; Sue Sexton; Colin Smith; Rosie Thornton and Corinne Turner.

**1. Apologies**

Nina Chantry; Kathy Hennessy; Ron Henocq; Brett –Hogan; Donna Spedding; Amanda Squires and Sylvia Wanless.

**2. Constitution**

2.1 A revised constitution was agreed (see attachment 1) and it was suggested that site plans be appended to it.

**3. Election of Committee Members**

3.1 Corinne Turner was elected as Membership Secretary.

3.2 The following were also elected:

* Michael Daniels
* Kathy Hennessey
* Jerry Hewitt
* Christine Savory
* Sue Sexton

3.3 The Committee has one vacancy.

**4. Minutes of Meeting 28th September 2010 and Matters Arising**

4.1 Jerry Hewitt noted the need to include reference to oak tree near China Hall gate. Otherwise the minutes were agreed.

**5. Update from Parks Manager**

5.1 Rosie Thornton reported on a number of issues:

Bowling Green

Bayliss’ irrigation system works due to be completed by end of the week.

Roof – following copper roof vandalism it had been suggested by the bowls club that it maybe better to replace the roof with tiles. English Heritage’s view has been sought, but as yet no response.

Jim Saunders asked about the grass for the nursery bed and raised concerns about general after-care of recent works.

Jim also asked about removal of bowls poster from the notice boards.

EDF money

This money – c £40k - has still not been received by Parks and legal team are dealing with this and Rosie continues to chase. Gary Glover said he would also chase the Borough Solicitor over the matter.

Lake

Rosie reported the fountain had been repaired.

Outdoor Gym

Cleaner Greener Safer funds have been awarded to install an outdoor gym and that the installation contract would include maintenance for one year. After discussion it was agreed to a linear lay out of the equipment, to be located at the former javelin run-up site to the eastern edge of The Oval.

Dilston Grove

Rosie indicated she is still looking to contribute to a notice board, and improve the turf to the front of the gallery and possible contribute towards seating.

Ada Salter Tree of Heaven

Rosie said the tree is due to be replaced. It was agreed to hold a ceremony.

Bandstand guttering

Rosie said this will be attended to.

Franklin Close

There are three gates accessing the park illegally. Rosie said she would contact Borough Solicitor for advice.

**Action: Rosie to advise on progress on all matters above. Rosie and Gary to advise on EDF monies**

5.2 Filming in the Park

Alison Clayburn asked about use of income to the Council from approved filming. Rosie indicated that filming is managed and monitored through the Events Team, and that at present there is c£2,000 available to use in the park. She said that the Parks service acts as a gatekeeper for the money. It was agreed to write to the Council suggesting that 20% of income received should be allocated to The Friends or Parks section to use directly in the park.

Jerry Hewitt said it would be good to know the actual filming income figures.

Gary Magold asked about unapproved filming – it is not unusual to see film units at weekends when there is no apparent management or monitoring. Rosie said any instances should be reported to her or John Reid.

5.3 Plane Tree disease

Marjorie Hill reminded meeting of the fungal disease (Massaria) currently affecting plane trees in the royal parks. Is there any evidence of it in Southwark Park?

5.4 Dangerous cycling

Jim Saunders raised the issue again and Rosie said that John Reid may have the powers to do something about it.

**6. Park Standards Officer Report – Nina Chantry**

6.1 Nina was not present but sent an e-mail with the following information:

* The Quadron team has actioned all grounds maintenance requests made during the walkabout.
* Chandra Eastwell (Arboricultural Officer) is happy for the Friends to decide where they want the new oak to be planted. This season's planting will take place in January.
* Graffiti by China Gate has been reported but the Repair and Maintenance team cannot touch it as the wall isn't our property.
* Plans to order some more whips to fill the gaps in the hedge along the wall during the winter (budget permitting)
* In Lynne Olding’s list for the winter work some reasonable pruning around the gallery will be made to improve visibility
* Confirms that we do have a cylinder mower on site for the Bowling Green.  It is kept in a container in Quadron's depot and the other areas have their own mowers as well.  A spiker and a roller are available when needed.  Rocky Spence (Groundsman in the Quadron's team) has recently attended a course on Bowling Green Maintenance.

**7. Kings Stairs Gardens**

7.1 Gary Glover reported back on the various campaigning activities of the Save Kings Stairs Gardens Group, and noted that the Council was intending to place Tree Preservation Orders on the site. A discussion on the communication failures of Thames Water followed, and members were reminded of the exhibition of proposals at Time and Talents.

It was agreed to:

* Donate £500 to the Save Kings Stairs Gardens Group - Marjorie Hill
* Write a letter of opposition to Thames Water – Pat Kingwell

**8. Membership – Corinne Turner**

8.1 Corinne circulated a membership form which was approved by the meeting. Gary Magold suggested making them available at Community Council meetings.

8.2 A discussion followed on need for a Friends website and it was agreed to ask the Council if they may be able to help.

**9. Finances – Marjorie Hill/Pat Kingwell**

9.1 A financial statement and accounts was circulated by Marjorie and Pat showing that at 3rd November 2010 a balance, including commitments, of £4158.37.

9.2 A discussion on the format of financial reporting followed and it was agreed that at the next meeting a report be given more clearly differentiating the “Our Park” and other spending.

9.3 Auditing was discussed and it was agreed to ask Grace Beesley to assist.

**10. Projects Update**

Former Nursery Clearance Project

10.1 Gary Glover asked for clarification on where this project now stands. It was agreed to invite Rebecca Towers to the next meeting to provide an update.

Sports Centre

10.2 Pat Kingwell asked for clarification on where this project now stands. It was agreed to invite Jay Yeats to the next meeting to provide an update.

**11. Planning Matters**

386 Southwark Park Road (Planning application 10/AP/2308)

11.1 Pat Kingwell said that according to Council website the consultation period for this conversion of the former social club into flats had now passed. Discussion showed some concerns about boundary issues. It was agreed to invite Alan Camp Architects to next meeting to give a presentation about the scheme.

Southwark Park Relocation of Caryatids (Planning application 10/AP/2412)

11.2 Gary Magold advised that Cleaner Greener Safer funding had been secured to move the former Rotherhithe caryatids from the Heygate Estate to Southwark Park about a year ago. Planning permission is required, but there had been little progress yet. In addition Southwark Council had decided to also seek funding from Heritage Lottery Fund in order to allow the CGS monies to be used on other schemes. Discussion was concerned about the length of time the project was taking and also fears that CGS monies may be clawed back. It was agreed to write to the Chair of Rotherhithe Community Council to seek his advice. Gary Magold said he would also go to the Community Council meeting and raise the matter.

**12. Any Other Business**

Tennis Courts Upgrade - Cleaner Greener Safer application

12.1 Gary Glover said we need to apply in the next round when the date is announced.

Albins Memorial Garden

12.2 Talk of possible extension of garden into the park. It was agreed to keep an eye on this.

**13. Future Meetings Schedule**

The following was agreed:

***AGM***

Tuesday 26th April 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)

***General***

Wednesday 26th January 2011 (6.00pm at Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall New Place Square, Southwark Park Road)

Wednesday 30th March 2011 (6.00pm at Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall New Place Square, Southwark Park Road)

Wednesday 25th May 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)

Wednesday 13th July 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)

***Committee***

Wednesday 9th January 2011 (6.00pm at Parkside Tenants and Residents Association Hall New Place Square, Southwark Park Road)

Wednesday 13th April 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)

Wednesday 8th June 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)

Wednesday 14th September 2011 (6.00pm at Gallery in the Park)