



Friends of Meriton Road Park Group Meeting–

Meeting held – Monday 5th October 2009

Present: Liz Wilson, Barbara Pownall, Margaret Wood, Tracy Bratt and Mike Bishop

Apologies: Sheila Rovira, Vernon Thompson, Rob Sawyer, Jennifer Banks and Roland Lomax

Minutes from last meeting-

Please note that apologies were received for 3rd August and 7th September meetings from Vernon Thompson but were not recorded in the minutes.

Also Mike Bishop was present at the 3rd August meeting but his name was unfortunately not included in the minutes.

Matters Arising -

Liz's feedback from the council-

Drainage –

Liz has met with “drainage Justin” and has been given a quote to get a drainage survey done. The survey will tell us what is wrong and how it can be fixed and also how much it will cost. This will have implications on the pond area so we need to wait before we plan any projects for the pond.

Brook area –

Liz has looked at this area and it may be an area we ask the probation team to work on. Liz has met with the team to discuss projects for the park. There needs to be certain issues in where and when the probation can be used and also to take into consideration the wildlife issues.

Picnic benches –

Liz has got money for us to get 2 benches (1 being wheelchair accessible), 1 BBQ stand and grass matting. We discussed using the area of grass next to the old basketball hoop as it is ideal for families to watch over the play area and tennis courts. We felt that getting the 2 benches with wheelchair access would be better than the BBQ stand as we have Seashell trust residents using the park and families can put prams at these tables too.

Ramp down from driveway to path around old bowling green-

Liz explained the ramp will be built leading down from the driveway to the path near the MUGA. This will allow better access for people with wheelchairs or prams. Also they will re-do the haunchings around the tennis court/MUGA area.

Small Slide –

This has been reinstated in the play area. People are really enjoying this but had a few mention that it is collecting water and wondered if it is installed at wrong angle or needs a drainage hole in the dip of the slide.

CCTV –

Apparently we can have one in the park but we would have to fund it ourselves.

Orchard-

Liz explained that councils are now looking into making park and green spaces an edible resource for people to use by planting herb beds rather than just greenery and orchards for people to use. This is an interesting area for park developments but there are no plans at the moment for this at Meriton Road park.

Mike asked about allotments and where the council stood on using park land for this. Liz will enquire about the council policy on this.

Money for the trim trail –

Roy Lowndes has said we can have £5,000 to go towards our trim trail looking at our total cost for the project being around £20,000. We only have this £5,000 until the end of the financial year so we need to look to getting grants for the rest of the project costs.

Trim Trail Planning

We began looking through the information about the types of exercise equipment available. We also discussed the area for placing the trim trail. We suggested that it starts at the bank leading from the play area to the bottom gate at Meriton/Hampson Crescent area and then do some low level pieces such as walk along logs or bench to lead to the triangle area of land near the new path and then back to the pond area. It was felt it would be good to place the pieces individually and then have markers in between to say how far you walk to the next piece. This will then encourage people to follow the trail around the whole park area.

We decided we would apply to WREN, Manchester Airport and Awards for All for the extra funding needed.

Barbara and Tracy will meet initially meet to begin looking through the information needed to begin the grant process. Mike has offered to help and so will Liz and Rob.

We will email companies to get more equipment information and prices and look to see if there are local examples of equipment in parks.

AOB –

Children in Need event in park –

The council have been approached by someone wanting to stage an event in the park to raise money for Children in Need. It will be for youngsters and they are planning an activity and music event.

We expressed concerns over the use of equipment on the grassed areas as vehicles would leave the grass in a very bad state. Also concerns about the use of disco music and lights for the people residing next to the park.

The Friends of Meriton Road Park are not involved in any way with this proposed event. It is a private application to the council.

Bulb Planting –

This is planned for the 2nd half of November. Liz has taken our interest in holding this event and will let us know if we get bulbs allocated to our park. We have provisionally allocated Saturday 21st November 10.30-12.00 as the FOMRP planting event and we will be planting crocus bulbs in the entrance grassed areas of the park.

There will be another planting time specifically for the Gardening Club at Wilmslow Grange Primary school as we wanted to involve the school children. They will plant daffodils along the new school pathway.

Latest Accounts –

Thank you to Margaret Wood for informing us we have £291.63 in our balance.

Waitrose Community Grant –

Rob sent a message to say that in this month's Waitrose community grant appeal (Wilmslow) is The Friends of Handforth Station and that he had put an application in for FOMRP for future months. Do go along and support FOHS this month. You receive a green token each time you buy anything at Waitrose and then you put them in one of the 3 boxes near the tills. Each of the 3 appeals will receive a proportion of the £1000 depending on how many tokens they have gained.

FOHS – Poet Laurette at the station

Mike gave us a poster which we displayed in the notice board announcing that the Cheshire poet Laurette W.Terry Fox would be reading for the schools and community at the station Thursday 8th October. We hope the event went well.

Next FOMRP Meeting – Our A.G.M November 2nd 2009 at 7pm in St Chad's Church Coffee Lounge. All Welcome.

Any nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer to be emailed to park@handforth.net or by phone to 07974214781 before the next meeting please.

As in our constitution all officers have to stand down at the A.G.M but are eligible for re-election.

All our current officers have stated they are willing to continue in their posts if re-elected at the A.G.M.



A.G.M

Friends of Meriton Road Park

Invite you to their annual general meeting

on **Monday 2nd November 2009**

at St. Chad's Church coffee lounge

7pm

Everyone welcome