



Friends of Broomfield Park

www.friendsofbroomfieldpark.org

Minutes of AGM and Open Meeting, Monday 16 May at 7.30pm. Minutes written as per agenda.

AGM

1. Welcome and Safety

Chris Kaufman (CK), acting chair, welcomed everyone, urged all to sign in(27) and gave safety procedures.

Apologies were received from Councillors Dinah Barry, Daniel Anderson and Bambos Charalambous.

2. Report on behalf of committee

CK went through the committee report, emphasising thanks to Rob and Bob, the park staff team.

3. Presentation of Accounts

Friends have appointed a new auditor - Simon Gatland; Simon has 6 years specialism in auditing charity accounts. Simon explained the new presentation. The Consolidated Income and Expenditure, together with the Balance sheet, gives a broader outline than previously and the groups within the Friends - conservatory, orchard - can be seen clearly.

Generally the new presentation was well-received as more detail is presented in a clear way.

*Friends of Broomfield Park have agreed to ask Bob Mitchell about expenditure in the park - what he and the new gardeners think money should be spent on.

Approval of accounts - proposed by Derek Honnor and seconded by Elizabeth Dobbie. Carried.

4. Memebrship

Zahir Anwar confirmed that there are currently 46 Life Memberships and 31 x3 year members.

Suggestion made and agreed to refer membership - types, cost - to next committee meeting.

5. Appointment of Officers

Chair - no nominations

Secretary - Sue Cook. Proposed Sue Younger, seconded Tony Elliott.

Associate secretary/membership secretary - no takers. Referred to next committee meeting.

Treasurer - Zahir Anwar. Proposed Sarah Cotton, seconded Tony Elliott

Auditor - Simon Gatland. Proposed Elizabeth Dobbie, seconded David March

Potential committee member - Katherine Mabey- to be invited to next committee meeting.

Need for new committee members is on-going.

6. Q and A on committee report and accounts

No further questions.

Open Meeting

7. Safer Neighbourhoods Unit (SNT)

SNTs have been reduced at the same time as the Parks Police have been disbanded.

PC Jane Winstanley, the Southgate Green Ward officer, was introduced to the meeting. Jane explained that ward officers have taken over the works of the former Parks Police. SNTs work until 10pm

Jane was made aware of reported concerns - rough sleepers in the park overnight and drugs being taken around the toilets area. It was agreed that regular patrols are needed to find people with anti social behaviour issues. These are not possible since the Parks Police has been disbanded.

Jane identified 3 levels of support by police

1. Low level support for anti-social behaviour such as graffiti - **Call 101**
2. Crime committed, suspect has moved on - will have response within 60 minutes - **Call**

101

3. Assault - immediate response **Call 999**

*Question was asked concerning dogs:

If the dog is attacking a person **Call 999**

Dog on dog - this is owner liability but if frightened, **Call 101**

** Question asked concerning why fewer incidents are reported by police in their statistics than the public report - Jane stated that reports made to Enfield through the website do not appear in police statistics. It is best to report to both.

Contact details for PC Jane Winstanley, Southgate Ward Neighbourhood Police

Phone: 020 8721 2680

Email: southgreen@snt@met.police.uk

Friends of Broomfield Park to put these contact details on the noticeboards in order to encourage visitors to report problems in the park.

8. Updates from committee members

Conservatory -Cathy Taylor to have display of ceramic work on 12 June.

Open Garden, Arnos Park Lodge - afternoon of Sunday 26 June. Proceeds to Conservatory fund.

Palmers Greenery Community Cafe

Sarah Cotton outlined how the cafe operates and called for more volunteers. Last year, A surplus of £8000 was generated, 60% of this went back into the park, 20% to Enfield and 20% to cover volunteers expenses.

Currently investigating working with schools and adults with learning disabilities to help in the cafe.

Annual allocation of funds will move from twice yearly to once yearly model.

Broomfield Orchard Operates on an informal basis with all volunteers welcome on Sunday afternoons from 2-4.30 and Wednesday mornings from 10-12.30. Next events will be in Love Parks Week, 15 - 24 July.

Growing space - there are 8 planters in place, with more to follow. Challenge is to protect produce from being eaten by wildlife; Enfield will not allow the area to be fenced off. 4 Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme youths involved in developing the area.

Apiary produced 120lb of honey last year. There are now 4 hives and honey will be sold in 12 oz jars - £5 to the public and £3.50 to volunteers.

Wildflower meadow - perennial meadow is doing well, annual meadow required a lot of work including rotivating. It has now been resown with the same seeds as last year.

Wildlife pond - this was dug out 6 weeks ago. It demarcates the western end of the growing space. Currently the volunteers are establishing whether or not it will hold water and soon planting will begin. More volunteers are needed. The Friends and not the Council will be responsible for maintaining the pond.

Remembrance Garden - 3 quotes received from architects for the Professional Advice Grant. One will be selected and a full application will be put in to the War Memorial Trust. Graham Deal plans to continue working on this. A vote of thanks was given to Graham for his personal intervention on this project and others.

Broomfield House - Work on the Conservation Management Plan for the whole park continues. Though currently focused on the attempt to rebuild Broomfield House and stableyard, when complete it could provide the basis for any future Parks for People bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The Broomfield House Partnership Board (on which the Friends are represented) is looking at financial models for the House and Stableyard developed by the consultants, potential rebuilding costs, and how potential commercial partners might best be approached. Discussions continue with the HLF on their potential funding contribution. More work is needed by the Board before deciding how any further round of public consultation might be carried out. The Trust is close to finalising an initial approach to the HLF to fund a digital history of the House and the Park.

The Board is considering how to set up a new Trust to manage the House and Stableyard. Though nothing has been said, if such a Trust is set up and given the pressure on funding for parks, the Council might contemplate a similar arrangement for the wider Park. Comments from the floor pointed to a group rethinking the future of public parks at:

<http://www.nesta.org.uk/project/rethinking-parks>

NB: the number to call for any repair issues at the weekend or indeed after 5pm is 0208 379 1000. Calls will automatically be referred to Enfield Council's out of hours service via Vangent. Officers on call will then be asked to address with assets within the Council's portfolio. You can also put something in writing via email to the Council at: CMCT Atrium Carelinequeries@enfield.gov.uk

9. Working with the council - the present position and going forward

- Sue Younger and Sue Cook had attended a meeting on 27 April at the Civic Centre where new types of 'Friends of Parks' report meetings with the council were described.
- Broomfield Park is part of the Western Area of parks and will have contact with 7 other Friends groups in this area through the Associate Cabinet Member, Bambos Charalambous. There are 2 other groupings of parks in the borough.
- In future there will be one Public Realm Information Officer (PRIO) and this person is unlikely to be able to attend Friends meetings. The intention of the twice yearly meetings of the Western Area of Parks with Bambos is to provide a platform for Friends and the council to discuss strategic issues and to share practice.
- The agenda will include council updates and items proposed in advance by Friends groups.
- 2016 is the last year that the Council will pay for Green Flag registration. Broomfield is in the final tranche and we will hear in July if we are to gain the award. Concern was expressed that maintenance of parks may be reduced with no annual inspection. We were told that whilst there will be no official inspection, there will be a new system with Friends groups agreement which will be linked to, among other things, volunteer hours. The number of volunteer hours required to achieve bronze, silver and gold wards will be increased. This should still mean that we can achieve Gold as our park volunteers contribute in excess of 500 hours per year.
- We are encouraged to report any problems in the park on-line - the website has been improved. This reporting has to be done through 'Enfield Connected' but Friends groups at the

meeting expressed concern that the public may be discouraged from reporting. It is still possible to telephone but the report may not be put onto the reporting system.

- As previously reported any criminal/ASB matters should be reported to the police Safer Neighbourhoods unit as well as to the council.

10. Forthcoming Events

See Orchard and Conservatory notes.

11. Any Other Business

This year's Photographic Competition has 11 entries . competition closes in August.

Green Flag status inspection took place on 12 May and a vote of thanks was made for the officers/ volunteers involved in the preparation, especially Graham Deal.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 10th October 2016 , 7.30pm at Ruth Winston Centre.