

## Millfields Users Group Open meeting, 7 December 2011

### Draft Agenda

Chair: Amy Erickson, Hackney Parks Forum

	<b>Timing</b>
1. Introductions, apologies	7.20
2. Agree agenda	7.25
3. Minutes of last meeting	
- agree	7.27
- arising	7.30
4. Treasurer's report	7.35
<b>5. Committee election process</b>	<b>7.40</b>
<b>6. Motion</b>	<b>7.55</b>
<b>7. Casimir Road entrance and surrounding area</b>	<b>8.05</b>
<b>8. National Grid road</b>	<b>8.50</b>
9. Progress reports, time permitting	<i>(if ahead of time)</i>
10. End	9 pm

### Treasurer's report

<b>Previous General Meeting 17th September 2011 Bank Balance</b>				1835.07
<b>Cash In</b>	Interest tax on account		0.64	1835.71
<b>Cash Out</b>	Gazebo	819		1016.71
	Fliers and newsletters	500		516.71
	Refreshments for meetings	14		502.71
<i>ADD uncashed cheques amounting to £870</i>				
<b>7th December bank balance</b>				<b>1372.71</b>

**Millfields Users Group currently holds £502.71 in unrestricted funds**

## Millfields User Group open meeting, 17 September 2011

### Minutes

Present: Bob Bengé (chair), Tim Evans (Minutes), Michael Murnane, Wendy Reid, Jane Willdigg, Mark Bell, Hamilton Hawksworth, Colin Croggon, Ann Clifford, cllr Deniz Oguzkanli, Ruth Smyth, Harry Hewat, Michael Row, Anna O'Sullivan, John O'Sullivan, Teddie Sawyer, Claire Kelly

In attendance: Bruce Irving (LBH Parks Development Officer), Ben Kennedy (LBH Streetscene Senior Engineer)

1. Introductions were made.  
Apologies received from Ian Rathbone, Barry Buitekant, Andrea Sinclair, Emma Jack, Helen Morris, Vivienne Foxley, Diane Bernhardt, Ciara Devlin, Paul Devlin
2. The agenda was agreed
3. Minutes of 11 April
- 3.1 Agreed a correct record
- 3.2 Arising: It was noted that as a result of the committee's decision to hold meet-the-user stalls over the summer instead of indoor meetings, the group would meet 4 times in the year instead of 5 as required by the constitution. The group approved this on a show of hands.
4. The Treasurer's report is attached
5. An update on the state of LBH Parks organisation and staffing, & project funds, was given by the secretary
6. A report was given on the 'Summer surge' (fun day & meet-the-users stalls) for which the committee had obtained a Grassroots Grants award. The fund day had attracted many local families, and the stalls had attracted 70 new people to the group. It was suggested that other local community groups could be invited to any future fun days.
7. Cycle path  
  
It was reported that the group's 2008-2010 decisions to address perceived pedestrian/cyclist conflict on the Black Path by reprioritising it, are to be implemented. After discussion, the action was approved on a show of hands.
8. Orchard path  
  
It was reported that the group's decision in April to approve a path through the orchard area, on condition that it was suitable for the area, was being implemented. The action was approved by consensus.
9. Play  
  
Following a presentation and discussion on improving play provision, it was agreed to:
  - request the council to commission initial scoping work for refurbishing the north playground, on the lines proposed<sup>1</sup>, and funded from National Grid 'rent'
  - continue to investigate possibilities for play on south Millfields, with no spending commitment

As it was now 5pm, other items were not taken, and the meeting closed

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<sup>1</sup> see <http://millfieldsusers.blogspot.com/2011/07/state-of-play.html>, and MUG Update newsletter Sept 2010

## **Item 5: Committee Election Process Proposals**

### **Before the Meeting**

1. Invitation to stand sent out at least 4 weeks before meeting (email, park noticeboards)
2. Candidates invited to send in statement by 1 week before meeting, which will be posted on website.
3. There is no word limit for statements for posting online but candidates must submit a version not longer than 200 words for printed circulation at the meeting. Longer texts will be truncated when printed.
4. Candidates should be nominated by one other park user; nomination can be at meeting (i.e. candidate may send in statement without having a nominator)
5. People can stand and be nominated at the meeting but cannot make a statement at the meeting

### **At the Meeting**

6. Committee will prepare a reasonable number of voting papers, with blanks for those standing at meeting
7. Committee will prepare a reasonable number of copies of a document containing the 200-word candidates' statements.
8. Candidates can identify themselves but not make an oral statement.
9. If there are more than 12 candidates, an election is held by secret paper ballot
10. If candidates stand at the meeting the chair will read out their names for voters to write on the ballot paper
11. If there are too few voting papers prepared, blank lined paper will be distributed and the chair will read out all candidates' names (as many times as necessary)
12. Everyone at the meeting has 12 votes (or the number of committee seats up for election)
13. The meeting will elect 2 tellers to count votes. They may be council officers or local councillors attending as observers. They will not be candidates, unless no other person can be found.
14. Tellers will announce the names of people elected but not the number of votes received
15. Tellers promise not to reveal any other information about votes cast
16. After the election, ballot papers will be placed in a sealed envelope and kept for 6 months by one of the tellers or by another person acceptable to the meeting

### **By-elections**

#### **If committee place(s) become vacant between AGMs:**

17. An election will be held, using the same procedure, at the first possible group meeting (i.e. if the vacancy occurs less than 4 weeks from a meeting, the election occurs at the meeting after that).
18. If there is only one seat up for election, and more than 2 candidates, single transferable vote<sup>1</sup> will be used.

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<sup>1</sup>STV: Voter numbers candidates in order of preference. Teller redistributes 2nd (etc) votes from candidate(s) with least votes.

## Item 6

Given Millfields Users Group is regarded by Hackney Council as the key stakeholder in relation to developments within Millfields, with over 300 members, we think it is essential timely minutes are produced and circulated by the Committee. We have raised the issue of the late publication of the minutes with the Chair of the Committee, Tim Evans, who has advised the timely publication of minutes is “a luxury rather than a priority”. We disagree and are shocked by such a complacent response. We therefore propose the following amendments to the MUG Constitution.

“General Meetings will be scheduled four time per year, timed from the launch month of the AGM. All members will be invited. Minutes will be produced and be available to members within two weeks of the scheduled meeting. Agenda for the meetings will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Executive Committee will meet at least once every month. Minutes will be produced and be available to all members within two weeks of the scheduled meeting. Members can attend as observers with at least one week’s prior notice to the Chair or Secretary.”

Michael Murnane & Wendy Reid

## Item 7

see Casimir Road Entrance proposal sheet:

<http://millfieldsusers.blogspot.com/2011/12/northern-approaches-can-we-rehab.html>

- copies available at meeting