

Millfields Users Group committee meeting, 2 November 2011: Minutes

Present: Bob Bengé, Tim Evans, Harry Hewat, Mike Row, Ruth Smyth

action

1. Apologies: Barry Buitekant, Vivienne Foxley, Andrea , Diane Bernhardt, Andrea Sinclair, Claire Kelly, Emma Jack
2. Agenda was agreed
3. Minutes of last meeting were agreed and there were no matters arising

4. **Events issues**

*Tim bob
?Emma?*

MUG has commented on applications from Manning's and Irvin's funfairs & raised several questions including breach of conditions protecting trees & grass, & LBH failure to enforce conditions & financial penalties for damage. As a result LBH has put applications on hold and set up HEAT (Hackney Events Action Team) meeting with MUG to deal with issues raised.

5. **TRAs**

*Diane
Vivienne
(Tim)*

We've talked to Millfields estate TRA who then invited MUG to their last meeting, which Vivienne, Diane, Bob & Tim attended. They are open to a co-option invitation.

Decided to invite them to put someone forward for co-option.

Topics of mutual interest include play, and improvement of north-south path.

Continue to explore contact with Clapton Park TRA, with help of Sharon Patrick

6. **Councillors**

*Diane Tim
bob Harry
Ruth*

Kings Park: Sharon Patrick has said she will be contact on park matters, Leabridge: Useful meeting held with Deniz Oguzkanli. (Bob, Ruth, Harry, Tim)

7. **National Grid**

*Harry mike
Bob Tim*

Contact made with Jonathan Curtis who has replaced Bilquis Mahmood as lead at Grayling (NG's community liaison). Decided to request meeting involving Harry, Bob, Mike, Tim; Tim to circulate some evening dates.

Topics include:

- removal of lay-by and fences, increasing permeability
- getting rid of old gate at crossroads entrance now presumably superseded by larger gate
- planting in front of west wall (check with Paul Foinette on progress of last year's ideas)
- north-south path - how to beautify - talk to Millfields TRA?

action

8. **Biodiversity activities** *Emma mike
Tim*
- Bulb planting being organised for Sat 12 November.
 - Successful joint grant application with HMUG for Re:Leaf funding for pruning workshops in orchard, to be held 8 & 14 January
 - Garden Organic to run Master Gardeners pruning workshop on 13 November.
 - Young Hackney carpentry workshop making bird & bat boxes for Millfields from recycled wood. When ready we'll try for press coverage for them. Thanks to abolition of tree gang, will have to be put up by contractors, at cost to budget.
9. **Casimir Rd entrance, north path** *Harry*
- Ask LBH for approx costing of moving north side path inwards so that group can decide whether to ask for integrated north side proposa.
10. **Play** *play group
Ruth Emma
Diane
Harry
Claire*
- Play group drafting flyer for schools circulation. Decided to work towards well-prepared debate on south side play in early 2012. Involve Clapton park TRAs, working with Sharon Patrick. Seek advice of Parks Forum groups who've recently worked on play improvements. LBH haven't yet progressed north side.
11. **Group meeting 7 December** *Bob
Tim
Harry
Playgroup
All*
- Main items:
1. Election improvements for AGM
 2. Casimir rd entrance and north path
- Play: will only need progress report on north.
Decided to invite guest chair from Parks Forum.
12. **Other business** *Ruth*
1. British Waterways wildflower/grass strip on north side widely perceived as failure. Could it be contoured as a grassy bank for sitting? Ruth will convey disappointment to BW.
 2. Gazebo / mini-marquee received & will be used first at bulb planting on 12 November.
 3. Orchard path works: notice received & posted inpark by LBH; will start in November
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