

## Millfields Users Group General Meetin 26<sup>th</sup> May minutes

Apologies: Bruce Irvine and Barry B

Treasurers report: There is around £440 in the bank. No bids yet but bids could be submitted if members had specific projects for which funds were needed. Signatory change was underway.

Update on Capital Projects:

These are:

Southside Play

Improved northside play

Entrance at Casimir rd including paddling pool

These projects have now moved from parks dept to head of council and been approved to go ahead to the next stage. There will be a meeting in June where a project development officer will be assigned to each scheme and they will set a timescale, At this point the User Group will get involved and will have a rep on the board that chooses consultants to work up the scheme and get involved with the consultation process that will be set up.

There is money available for all 3 developments and all were part of the original masterplan.

There was discussion about how we can ensure that all park users are represented and have their say on the proposals and it was agreed that once we know the timetable the users group can assist by seeking out reps of various groups of people who use park.

So far informal consultation with local residents had informed MUG's view that southside play should have no fences, no tarmac or hard surfacing and be integrated into the landscape (not the style of the north side playground). On the north side there should be equipment for 2 age groups, the kiosk should be reclaimed for use but outside the fenced playground area so it could serve a wider area. The cost of resurfacing the paddling pool was likely to be considerably less than reinstating it as grass so likely options seemed to be to pave it in some way as an attractive triangular social space for use by all ages.

RARA

Emma had been contacted by the Redundant Architects Recreation Association who were planning a one day intervention in the paddling pool to build a 3 way table tennis table and some other things on a date at the end of June. It was decided that this would be a good opportunity to get people thinking about possible futures for the pool and MUG would get involved, serve tea and cakes and run a survey at the same time.

Bins and Rubbish

Claire had done a survey of bins broken, bins needed and different sort of bins needed of Millfields north and central. She had e-mailed Michael Dixon on behalf of MUG expressing concern about the state of the bins but not much had come of it. It was agreed to take photos of the state of the bins and keep asking. Harry suggested putting the bin requirements together with bench and lamppost requirements to come up with a comprehensive approach rather than a piecemeal one perhaps identifying the style of park furniture that we want. Michael reminded us to bring up the Olympics when lobbying for improvements as there will be lots more public this summer. Zee suggested a community litter picking event. There was a discussion about the British Waterways bits of the park where litter is not picked up and Michael will e-mail the British Waterways contact to Emma and to Harry.

Users AOB

Claire was asked about the Fun Day and she said she was happy to organise a children's Play Day in August 2012 but not the full fun day with stalls etc. If anyone wanted to organise a Fun Day she would provide all her contacts. It cost about £2000 and the money came from a grassroots grant and contributions from local landlords.

Wendy wanted to know who took over John Wade – head of Parks job – Emma to email Wendy

There was to be an Open day at the Old School House 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June 12 to 6pm, after which it would be open for artist exhibitions, talks and walks about local history.