

FRIENDS OF HAILEY PARK

MINUTES OF THE BI-MONTHLY MEETING HELD AT THE ROYAL EXCHANGE, TYMAWR ROAD, LLANDAFF NORTH 3RD MAY 2017 AT 7.30 PM

	<p>PRESENT:</p> <p>Chairperson. Penny Bowers</p> <p>Secretary/ Treasurer. Derek Kinsey</p> <p>Committee. Paul Rock, Derek Ford, Anita Smith, Russell Todd.</p> <p>Park Ranger, Gareth Stamp.</p>		
ITEM	Page 1 of 3	ACTION	DATE
1.05.17	APOLOGIES. None.		
2.05.17	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING. These were read and accepted as accurate.		
3.05.17	MATTERS ARISING. None.		
4.05.17	TREASURER'S REPORT. DK reported that accrued income for the period 1 st January—30 th April 2017 amounted to £364.60 all subscription revenue and £19 in donations. The subscription collection process is now complete. Two debit entries on the I/E account refer to a charge for Web Domain renewal and the purchase of printer cartridges. Funds at bank on 30 th April total £3129.47		
5.05.17 (i)	<p>BRIEF REPORTS.</p> <p>Scrutiny Comments (-Economy Cmte- re Volunteering and Friends Groups 9/3/17 PB stated that the group was asked to submit comments to this committee regarding volunteering and Friends Groups. Our comments were collated by two members of the Friends Forum who also attended the scrutiny on behalf of the Friends Forum (Martin Chamberlain and Steve Bool) Nicola Hutchinson attended the scrutiny meeting (she also heads up the Friends Forum as a member of the Parks Dept.</p> <p>(i) One thing that I have noticed is that access to rangers attached to Friends Groups has got less over the years as community rangers have had to increase their own workload (i.e. workdays have been reduced from 12 to 10 per year with less time spent in Hailey Park assessing what needs to be done. However, I have nothing but praise for the hard work the ranger teams do as they appear to be the most committed to working with Friends groups.</p>		

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5.05.17	<p>BRIEF REPORTS. (Cont.)</p> <p>(i) Scrutiny Comments. The passion for the work they do comes through all the time but they can only do as much as they can do these days !</p> <p>(2) Gareth Stamp as our contact ranger or Nicola his boss/-line manager are not always told of any changes going on in the patch we operate in, therefore, we never get to know either. Apart from the community ranger team there is a distinct lack of communication from the council so that Friends Groups often have to chase up the information.-</p> <p>(3) As a general park we also had links with some of the urban rangers over things such as dog education but this contact has got less too (to almost nothing) – again this is because of their increased workload due to redundancies, which is a shame as this is a vital role for the council.</p> <p>(4) Frustration of volunteers sometimes finding the right route through working with council officers over large projects (ones that are not within the remit of the park ranger team) , which can create delays in using existing funding, communication problems and a lack of workable structure. This often means the council doesn't get the best use of volunteers or appreciate their role.</p> <p>(ii) Workday, Sunday 26th February. PB reported that the volunteers were engaged in planting the remaining disease resistant elm trees at the southern end of the park near the river.</p> <p>(iii) Workday, Sunday 12th March. PB reported that the over 30 volunteers attended to assist in creating a bee bank adjacent to the pathway leading from the smaller car park. Over seven tonnes of sand and aggregate had to be moved to the site to construct the bank which included a reptile habitat. Bug Life provided all the materials and a welcome lunch when the task was completed This was regarded as worthwhile work as it is estimated that one third of the food produced on the planet depends on pollinators. It was observed that volunteer response is improved when the proposed assignment is detailed in preliminary advertising.</p> <p>(iv) Workday. Sunday 13th April. PB reported that the volunteers assisted in clearing mud etc. from the new pathways leading to the loop bridge, clearing intrusive vegetation from the meadow pathways, a general tidying —up exercise as a precursor to the Green Flag Community Award inspection due on Tuesday, 9th May.</p> <p>(v) Dog Awareness Day, Wednesday 26th April. PB reported that the council dog wardens, urban rangers and Dogs Trust representatives attended the park with basic pet health and, identity checks, and responsible dog ownership advice performed and free dog poo bags given out to dog owners. The event was well attended, Victoria Park and Roath Park held similar sessions.</p>		
6.05.17	<p>PARK ISSUES.</p> <p>(i) Information Board. PB stated that this unit had been vandalised and has been re-erected in a temporary upright position as it had been previously pivoted. The council are aware of the damage and will carry out repairs.</p> <p>(ii) Titan Unit. This popular playground feature has been out of commission for several months but is now restored. Specialised lifting equipment and personnel were required to replace the damaged part.</p> <p>(iii) Whitchurch Cycling Club. This organisation has licence to use the park including the meadow pathway. Some</p>		

	<p>concerns were raised relating to possible damage to wildlife meadow, especially in wet conditions where rutting could occur.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 3 of 3</p>		
<p>6.05.17 (iv)</p> <p>PARK ISSUES. Dandelions. GS stated that there were over 200 types of this plant, 6 micro species found in the park are quite rare and some seeds have been collected for deposit at the Millennium Seed Bank Project at Wakehurst Place, West Sussex.</p> <p>(v) Tennis Courts. Concerns were expressed that work had yet to commence refurbishing the tennis courts, funds were available for the project so these delays are worrying with players anxious to use the facility.</p> <p>(vi) Social Media. RT requested that members with any photos with park connections, past and present, wildlife studies, anything they would consider sharing, please forward for posting, they would be most welcome.</p> <p>(vii) Cardiff Walking Festival Month. PB presented the current Outdoor Cardiff Guided Walks & Parks Events 2017 handbook, the essential guide for walkers, wildlife interests, history and much more. Hopefully the guide will be distributed through outlets in the locality.</p> <p>(viii) FOHP Summer Fair This event will take place on Saturday, 24th June with all the usual attractions and stalls and -the Fun Dog Show.</p>			
<p>7.05.17</p>	<p>FOHP ISSUES It was agreed that bi-monthly meetings will commence at the earlier time of 7.00pm.</p>		
<p>8.05.17</p>	<p>AOB. None.</p>		
<p>9.05.17</p>	<p>DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, 5th July 2017 at 7.00pm.</p> <p>Meeting Closed at 8.35pm</p> <p>Derek Kinsey, Secretary.</p>		

