

**Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park and Recreation Ground  
Management Committee Monday July 29<sup>th</sup>. 2013**

**Present:** Paul Smith (Chair), Karen Berry (Secretary), Helen Elias (Treasurer), Esther Higden, Zilpha Reid, Tim Brooke, (committee members)

**Apologies:** Fiona Pashazadeh

1. **Minutes of the meeting 3.7.2013** were accepted as accurate. No matters arising.
2. **Registration as a charity** Tim explained that there were two types of charity:
  1. A group with a large membership with a constitution and membership other than committee members.
  2. A trust deed – a smaller group with no extended membership. It would have to have open forums twice a year.

There is no difference in terms of eligibility for funding *etc.* The group discussed the issue of the danger of the committee appearing as a clique so were undecided which type to opt for. Helen agreed to put the minutes of all meetings on the web site so that our activities would be more transparent. The annual accounts would also be on the web site if we had charitable status. We would be eligible for gift aid and eligible for more funding sources. Paul will complete the form for discussion at our next meeting. The present constitution, aims *etc.* need to be transferred onto the form. We should hold a public meeting if we receive the WREN grant to discuss playground options. No final decisions will be made till then.

3. **Dates of next meeting**

Sept. 2nd., Oct, 7th., Nov 4th., Dec. 2nd.

AGM to be held on Sept 7th in Spencer Park at 3.45 pm. after the young people leave the project day as we will have a marquee.

4. **Real challenge** – young volunteers will be running a project day at the park on Saturday Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.to raise money for park play equipment and conduct consultation with children as part of a

youth award scheme. Karen will meet with Michelle the park ranger and Real challenge organisers at Barrs Hill School on Aug 19<sup>th</sup>. No one else could attend.

5.

- Helen will ask her daughters if they would be available to supervise the face painting
- Helen will get soft drinks from Costco
- Esther will contact Vicky Halliday about story telling
- We could make cakes to sell.
- Zilpha will co-ordinate the tombola. Contributions should be taken to her house. Everyone to try to get prizes.
- Karen will contact Diana at NENA to hire games from Youth and Community.
- Karen to have 1000 A5 posters printed to publicise the event. These can be put up at Tinderbox, the Library, Co-op, Moor Street and ABC nurseries. Fliers can be left in Earlsdon Library over the summer. Karen has contacts who could tell us the best way to send out information from the schools given that it is the first week back. Posters to go in the park should be laminated. The event should be advertised via NENA, SENA, Echo, Facebook, Your Call. Helen to post it on our website as “Family Fun in the Park”.

## **6. WREN Funding**

Karen has received a letter from WREN saying that they can't accept third party finding from Section 106 money. Karen will contact Ces Edwards re viring money. We need £5,500 in cash plus the £15,000- to clear the site. Karen will try to set up a meeting with council staff and councillors.

## **7. A.O.B.**

Karen told us about a new Forum of Friends Groups in the City which is being set up by the Sowe Valley Group. They want one member from each group to attend a meeting on Aug 20<sup>th</sup> at Warwick Reform Church 6-8 pm. Meetings will be held quarterly. Karen will represent us.

Helen has been to see the new play equipment at Abbey Fields and taken photos. It is impressive, but the play surfaces may erode as they are mostly natural grass or the grow-through black matting round higher apparatus. A lot of the apparatus was wooden. There were small mounds, log stepping stones and boulders. Most

children were playing on the purpose built play equipment. There was no barrier by the swings. Warwickshire may have different safety standards from Coventry.

Helen Elias 30.7.13