

Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park and Recreation Ground Management Committee Monday June 3rd 2013

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

1. Minutes of the meeting 20.5.13 were accepted as accurate.
2. **Matters arising** : Rob Wheway's contribution was felt to be very useful and it would be useful to get his advice on our plans once we get the funding. Paul felt it would be useful to link our website with his. Helen agreed to look into this.
3. **Funding** Karen has emailed Ces Edwards requesting use of 106 funding as the 11% matched funding for the WREN bid. She will follow up this week. Paul will contact Virgin and the Central 6 consortium about future funding. Karen would like to include the installation of a goal post/basketball hoop structure on the tarmac on the Recreation ground to discourage older children from using the under eights play area. The bowling group is not keen on the removal of the wall as they sit on it to watch the competitions. The wall has to go. We proposed a backless bench so people could sit facing wither way. Tim has a contact involved in playground funding in Cheshire who suggested we should do local fund raising as it raises ownership. Fund raising ideas included the Coventry Fun Run; circulating a leaflet asking for suggestions and/or contributions; contacting schools, the Co-op, Rotary, and Coventry Traders (Teresa Kendall), and Awards for All. It was felt that we should concentrate on the WREN bid at present, as the closing date is July 31st. Future funding will be needed for further equipment. It is crucial that Ces permits the use of 106 money or the WREN bid will be jeopardized. At our next meeting we will look at the grant application. Karen will circulate the form to the group with the work she has done so far. The application needs to include the results of the consultation process. Karen might need help with coding the written responses and will contact us. We still need letters of support from the PTAs at Earlsdon and Hearsall schools. Fiona will follow up on Earlsdon and Karen will approach her neighbor who is a Hearsall governor. Paul will approach local nurseries. We also need letters from the Bowling Club and councillors. The three quotations we have received should be attached to the bid.
4. **Gardening** The next session is this Wednesday. Zilpha said that the Council will not be able to remove the snow berries in the near

future so the development of that area will have to be on hold.
Most of the Spanish bluebells have been removed.

5. **Consultation** 204 forms have been received and Karen has inputted 163. We will consult at Bands in the Park (Helen to make a banner) and get information from the Earlsdon School meeting. This will complete the consultation process. We still need a noticeboard in the park. Karen will find out about costs from Dave Lewis.
6. **Big lunch** This went well. There were plenty of activities for children but perhaps more than bowling and tennis was needed to get the adults to mix more. A skittle alley was suggested for the Earlsdon lunch in Spencer Park on Sat. Sept. 7th. The good weather certainly helped.
7. **Next meeting** Wednesday July 3rd. at Zilpha's house. 7.30 pm.