

**Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park and Recreation Ground Management
Committee Monday Nov. 3rd.2014**

Present: Paul Smith (Chair), Karen Berry (Secretary), Helen Elias (Treasurer), Zilpha Reid (committee member)

1. **Apologies:** Esther Higden, Tim Brooke, Trevor Robinson (ranger)
2. **Minutes** of the meeting of Oct. 1st., accepted as true record with one correction under donations. It should read £50 not 350 which was a typographical error.
3. **Play Area:** This has involved a lot of work on Karen's part as WREN required a more detailed break down of costs which Andy of Durasport provided very quickly and Helen sent it to WREN last week. However, we have not heard anything from WREN. Karen will follow up tomorrow as this is holding up the installation of the play equipment. Once the contract is signed we can ask Durasport to place an order for the equipment. Paul thought he had seen some e-mail correspondence about the asbestos removal but none of us recalled seeing it. Paul will check and send us copies if he finds it.
4. **Gardening in the Park:** Paul, Zilpha, Karen and Helen can attend at the next session on Nov. 8th. We need to work on the lime tree roots, dead heading, digging up snowberries, trimming laurels and clearing leaves around plants. Next session Dec. 6th. 10-12.30 when we could prune and remove roses.
5. **Challenge Nov. 15th.**: We need to plant the crocuses in an area which avoids the work to be done on the cycle path. Zilpha suggested just to the left of the trees. The Challenge group will be based at Henry V111 so if it is raining they will have alternative plans. However, we still need to plant the crocuses which NENA has funded. The twelve young people will probably be working in twos and will need containers for the crocus bulbs. They are also conducting interviews of park users. Their valuables can be put in Zilpha's car. We will need to be there for 10.30. Helen will get 24 bottles of water from the pound shop.
6. **Earlsdon Ward Forum Dec 11th:** The park is on the agenda so hopefully we will have placed the play equipment order by then.
7. **Our AGM:** Weds Nov 26th 7-8 in the back room of the Albany Club. Karen will get the accounts audited. Karen and Helen will have details about the playground.
8. **NENA AGM Tues Nov 4th:** We will let them know that the playground will be going ahead shortly and raise the issue of donations for benches.
9. **Earlsdon Festival :** We will organize tennis and bowls in the park on Sat. May 2nd. And will have a stall at the festival (Cost £50) to publicise our work and gauge opinion about future plans for the park. Plans for the stall include plant sale, cake stall, and tombola. We will display photos of the work done to

date in the park. Paul is keen to get more tennis going in the park. Karen to contact Holy of Inspire to Coach.

10. **Flat Bowling Green:** Ann Akerman has raised the possibility of this green closing. Paul said that if they allow it to grass over, it will be lost as a bowling green. It could be fenced off and the number of cuts reduced. However, they are already coming to cut the Crown Green regularly so the additional cost of cutting the Flat Green at the same time should not be a large extra cost. The flat green is being used twice a week and will be used more once the car parking is improved. Apparently Ann said at a War Memorial Park meeting that Spencer Park is a drain on the Parks Department resources. We felt there needs to be a discussion about the future of the park as our work is aimed at increasing usage. Karen will contact Ann to set up a meeting in the near future.

11. **Next meeting:** Weds Dec 3rd at 7.30 pm.