**Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park and Recreation Ground Management Committee** **Monday May 19th 2014**

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

**Apologies**: Esther Higden, Tim Brooke

1. Minutes of April 28th meeting accepted as a true record.
2. **Matters arising**: **Gardening –** sessions will start at 6.30. Dates – May 21st, June 4th, 11th,25th. July 9th, 23rd, Aug 13th, Sept. 19th. Helen to put on Facebook and web site. Karen to put in Echo. Changed dates avoid clashes with our committee meetings.
3. **Meeting with Andrew Walster** on June 11th 10 am Civic Centre 4. We want to get across that WREN needs plans by November including who the contractors will be and what they are installing. We need to know what the Council will do about moving the asbestos and when. We want a letter of intent that we can send to WREN. We will point out that we have tried to get funding for the removal of the asbestos but as the council are the legal owners and put the asbestos there they are responsible for its removal so we are not eligible for funding.
4. **Big Lunch –** Karen has found an organization called Sunrise Community Solutions who have games for hire at 5 for £12. She will go ahead and phone them and book suitable equipment. We need more tablespoons for the egg and spoon race. Kate and Chris Steventon have agreed to do games. We will have a table for publicity. We will give out the leaflets and have the playground plans up. We will need Tim’s display boards. Helen will run off some A4 pictures of park activities for Bands in the Park on June 8th. Karen said that the temporary licenses for the band events last for five days so if we wanted to have other musical events we could have them close to the band dates. It would be good to attract a variety of groups to the park. There could be a folk event to link with the Warwick Folk festival – Paul has a contact. Margaret Taylor of Hereward College is willing to organise Art in the park. Possibly a dog event for the dog walkers. These ideas will be on the agenda for the September meeting with a view to next summer.
5. **Spencer Park management plan:** Paul will read it and give feedback. Karen will work on a response.
6. **Earlsdon ward forum:** July 11th, Spencer Park has been put on the agenda so some of us will try to be there.
7. **AOB:**

* We have heard from NENA that some of the users of the flat bowling green would like a fence round it for protection from dogs and footballs. It is currently used on Mondays and Thursdays and users report problems finding parking. This will hopefully be resolved with time limited parking when the planning process is completed next Spring. Karen and Zilpha will pass on their request to Simon and Dave at their next meeting.
* We need an AGM but will set this at a future date.
* We covered our costs at the Earlsdon festival a made a profit of about £40. We may not pay for an entry in the programme next year.

Zilpha has a lot of plants for planting in the park and doesn’t think we need to buy any more at the moment. Karen will try to organise planting over half term to involve children. The November Challenge group could plant on the Recreation Ground.

1. **Next meetings:** Wednesdays June 18th and July 16th.

Helen Elias 19.5.14