

**Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park Management Committee**  
**Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017**

**Present:** Paul Smith (Chair), Karen Berry (Secretary), Pat Ryan (Treasurer), Tim Brooke, Zilpha Reed, Helen Elias, Helen Spence, Carol Bayliss, Anthony Godber, Liz Bayton (committee members) Trevor Robinson (ranger) Ken Taylor (Coventry City councillor)

1. **Apologies:** John Plunkett, Jane Donovan
2. **Minutes** of the meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. 2017 accepted as a true record
3. **Matters arising:**
  - Paul will go into One Stop next week to apply for funding for the green fence. **Vision for the Park:** formal complaints about misbehavior in the park (football on the bowling green and motorbikes in the park) have been submitted to the police. Paul has met with the Community Police Officer who took the names of boys on the flat green and warned them that their parents would be informed next time. The procedure to complain is to phone the police non- emergency number 101 ext. 8316306 or Fiona Jay, the Community Police Officer 07391864275. Helen will put this on Facebook and Anthony will put it on the board in the park.
  - The football post has been installed on the Recreation Ground which may alleviate the problem. Only one is installed to prevent teams using the area for games without paying the council.
  - The park benches will be installed soon.
  - The Big Lunch was a success. The number 42 raffle ticket has not been claimed. Helen to put this on social media and Anthony will post it on the board. Helen will post thanks to the firms who donated raffle prizes in the ECHO. (Statham's, Royal Bengal, The Cat's Pajamas and Misty Flip). We will approach these firms with leaflets in future.
  - The teddy bears picnic was also successful and will be repeated next year. About 120 were there. The games from the YMCA were very useful. There wasn't an opportunity to set up contacts to establish a parents' group.
4. **Pavilion working group:** Those interested in participating in a working group to work on the restoration of the pavilion are: Paul Smith, Pat Ryan, John Plunkett, Tim Brooke, Jane Donovan and Richard Jones. They will liaise with Ken Taylor. Janis Ferminger is also interested. They will meet on Monday Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. at Paul's house at 7.30pm. They need to set out a business plan for the uses of the pavilion, itemising revenue sources. Ken said that these are available on the internet and just need tweeking. Charity status will also need to be achieved for eligibility to funds. They will also need building expertise. Paul will inform Andrew Rawlston that a committee has been set nup and will approach him after the September meeting with plans. They will also contact Pete Lowden of English Heritage. Legal advice will also be needed. The objectives for Charity status should include:
  - Preservation of the environment
  - Restoration of the pavilion
  - Equality of access
  - Arts
  - Health and well being
  - Community involvement
  - Safe and secure environment

It is important that we fit the Charity Commission objectives and in funding applications make sure we fit the funders' criteria.

**Children's parties:** Andy proposed that in the interim we clear and redecorate the right-hand room and improve the counter area so that we could plan for children's birthday parties for next spring/summer. This could extend into a parent/toddler group based in the pavilion. Andy will produce a plan for the next meeting which we can present to the Council. The group felt this was a good idea as it would send a positive message that the pavilion serves a community need.

5. **Plans for the playground markings:** Helen Elias and Karen have visited some sites where the four firms we have contacted have installed markings. Most of the references we have received have been of markings installed in the last year and it is very difficult to assess the quality of the work without technical expertise. Ken has received a reply from Colin Knight in Highways in response to Helen's email about firms who had done thermoplastic road markings in Coventry. We will follow up. It is difficult at present to decide between the four firms with prices ranging from under £3000 to well over £5000. Helen will approach Anne Akerman to find out who did the War Memorial Park markings as they seem to be wearing well. We should hear by about July 21<sup>st</sup> how much money we will receive from Tesco's and then we will need to decide which firm we are going with. . Concern was expressed that we would have too much money if we got the maximum award of £5000, but Helen did not think this would be a problem.
6. **Funding:** Helen Elias explained the **Easy Funding Charity**. All people have to do is register with Easy Funding and when they order things online they go via Easy Funding to their online firm e.g. Amazon and indicate that they want charity money to go to Friends of Spencer Park. We would then receive a small percentage for our funds. Contact [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) .**The Coventry Recycling Club** has nominated Friends of Spencer Park as one of the charities points can be given to during the period mid July to mid September. The amount we get depends on how many people sign up for the Recycling Club and support Friends of Spencer Park. The points are based on the amount of Recycling in our area and there are also games that we can play to gain extra points. To enroll go onto [recyclingclub@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:recyclingclub@coventry.gov.uk) The funding requested was for bowling green fencing.
7. **Publicity:** Anthony will prepare a new poster for the noticeboard. Helen Elias will submit an article to the Echo – deadline July 17<sup>th</sup>. and keep Your Call up to date. Helen will post information on Friends Facebook page and local social media.
8. **Events:** Bands in the Park – Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Anthony, Jane, Liz, Carol and Pat will be available on the day and make cakes to sell. Family Fun Day Weds. Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>. – Karen will organize.
9. **Tennis:** There is a new lock on the gate and a sign will be put on the gate informing that the courts are for members only in view of the two children who got locked inside the courts. 58 have paid the family subscription. We need to boost the numbers to 100 if we are to persuade the LTA and Sport England to support our bid for funding for the replenishment of the courts. People need to be aware of this in that the future of the tennis courts is at stake. Anthony will prepare a poster for the noticeboard. No one has taken up the offer of business membership. Tim is prepared to leaflet the firms in Queen's road if Anthony could produce a leaflet – about 40 copies.
10. **History leaflet:** Helen Spence had nothing to report.
11. **Gardening** – first Saturday morning of each month and Thursday evenings July 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and then every two weeks.
12. **Hallowe'en event:** We plan to hold an event on Saturday Oct. 28th from 4-6pm. Children would come in costume, bringing pumpkins they have made for a pumpkin parade/competition. There will be a bat hunt and gingerbread, parkin and toffee will be available.
13. **Christmas event:** We will repeat the Santa in the Park event on Dec 16th. Paul will invite the Lord Mayor, Tony Skipper. Anthony suggested a rock choir and carols
14. **A.O.B.:** Anthony reported that the gate lock on the Crown Green needs fixing. Next meetings: Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>., Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>., Nov 6<sup>th</sup>., and Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

