

Minutes of Friends of Spencer Park Management Committee

Monday April 29th. 2019

Present: Paul Smith (Chair) Karen Berry (secretary) Pat Ryan (Treasurer), Zilpha Reed, Helen Elias, Carol Bayliss, Jane Donegan, Tim Brooke Anthony Godber, , Debbie Riordan, Dal Singh , Helen Spence (committee members)

1. **Apologies:** Liz Bayton, Scott Crowther, Ken Taylor.

Paul congratulated all the people who had been involved in organizing the Easter event. The park was full of people. Those present at the event said they needed more helpers and in future will make sure the donation box is out. There were a lot of very favourable comments on Facebook. There were some complaints about parking, although the parking by the park is for anyone for three hours, not just residents. It was decided when we advertise subsequent events to advise people there is limited parking and to walk there is possible. Tim felt that we should get participants' post codes so we can demonstrate the areas that park users come from in any funding bids. He suggested that we also invite users to have their email addresses added to a new post-GPDR mailing list. This would enable us to have a record of potential supporters when we come to make any appeals to the public. Helen will contact those on the email list she has

2. **Minutes** of the meeting on April 1st. were. Accepted. **Matters arising: Tennis:** Wind breaks on the tennis courts: There are some concerns about the screens reducing visibility which makes some users feel vulnerable. We need to work out a solution. Karen is meeting with the LTA next week. Paul has replied to the complainant. **Gardening:** The replaced privet hedges have been watered twice and are looking OK. Five more plants were pulled out last weekend. We will have another Big Clean up the Saturday before the pumpkin parade.(Oct 19th.)
3. **Pavilion sub group and room hire:** Paul met Ian Harrabin April 4th. to discuss funding. funding. Pat is planning to meet Councillor Chris Becks about the funding received by Hill Close Gardens in Warwick. There have been two bookings for parties – May 19th. and July 13th. Karen will change the booking form to make it clear that bouncy castles can't been in the room or the park. Tim said that we need to show a demand for refreshments in the park, at least at weekends in the summer. However, are there enough of us to do this ? The possibility of a catering van by the Recreation Ground was discussed as there would be more footfall there. Anthony will look into this. Karen is happy to open the pavilion for refreshments when the children's tennis lessons go on in the mornings and Carol is willing to do occasional afternoon teas during the week. Catering will be on the agenda for the next meeting on June 3rd.
4. **NCVO membership: (National Council for Voluntary Organisations)** : Tim proposed that we join this organization. Membership is free and they provide useful help e.g. Providing templates for relationships with Councils and business plans. This was approved so Tim will apply.
5. **2019 Events:**
 - Saturday May 4th. **Family Fun Day** 12 – 4pm (Setting up at 11 am) in association with **Earlsdon Festival** on May 6th. (Setting up stall 9am) Fun Day – bowling, tennis, games out,

football and goals (Duke of Edinburgh boys helping) parachute, craft stalls, face painting, sax band 12 noon (gazebo) yoga at 2pm and 3pm if warm enough (to be finalised on Saturday)

- Tennis coaching for children from May 11th. to July 27th. 4 separate age groups from 3 to 15 year olds 10.20 am till 1pm.
- Wednesday May 8th and June 5th **Art in the Park** 1-3pm £4
- Monday 10th June **AGM** of The Friends of Spencer Park in the park.

- Sunday 23rd June - **Get together for Jo Cox** – picnic in the park 12 – 3pm
- Sunday 30th **Mayor's Community weekend** with a band
- Sunday 7th July - **Dog show** 12-3pm – more events than last year
- Saturday 20th July **Great British Tennis weekend** 10-4 coach present.
- Sunday 18th August – **Band in Park** Bandicoots Blues Connection
- Saturday 28th September – **Concert** by City of Coventry Male voice choir at St Barbara's church
- 19th October – **Big Clean up** in the Park
- 26th October – **Pumpkin Parade**
- December: **Santa Event** Date to be confirmed

6. **Priorities for 2019:** Albany Bowls are sharing the costs of maintaining the Flat Green so there will be shared use. Tim felt we should be promoting the Flat Green more and getting more usage. Paul will pursue this. There has been a lot of work put into maintaining the Green but more rain is needed for improvements to be realised.

7. **GNP Sports Day** : in the small park and recreation Ground. Gurdeep will organize this and complete booking forms.

8. **Gardening:** First Saturday of each month. Thursday evening sessions May 9th. and 23rd. June 6th and 20th.

9. **A.O.B.** Jane and Anthony will start on the mural in the pavilion on Wednesday evening 6-8pm

10. **Next meetings:** June 3rd. AGM on Monday June 10th at 7pm in the Park. Debbie needs items for the tombola at the Festival.

2.5.19.