

## Minutes of The Friends of Spencer Park Committee

Monday December 2nd. 2019

**Present:** Karen Berry, Helen Elias, Paul Smith, Zilpha Reed, , Debbie Riordan, Liz Bayton, Tim Brooke, Ken Taylor, Helen Spence, Jane Donovan, Carol Bayliss, Pat Ryan.

**Apologies:** Anthony Godber, Becky Gittins, Scott Crowther

1. **Minutes of Nov 4th meeting and matters not on the agenda:** Approved as a true record. A letter has gone out in response to a query about fencing the playground. This will be distributed to the committee. Helen Spence reported that her contact in the Stoney Garden Group is willing to help with an application for Heritage Funding. Pat felt that we should be focussing on the pavilion and was concerned that we might not be able to apply to the same funder twice.
2. **Pavilion sub-group :** The minutes of the Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. meeting will be emailed to the committee. Richard presented his plans. Lisa Odedra who has expressed an interest in project management attended. She gave the name of a building surveyor but Paul has been unable to contact him. A lawyer is needed to scrutinize the lease proposed by the Council. Jane will approach a contact. It was agreed to frame new and original plans for display in the pavilion. Contact has been made with the Bedworth Lord Mayor's Community Café in the Miners' Welfare Park. They are willing to advise on setting up a café in Spencer Park pavilion.
3. **Funding workshop:** Voluntary Action Coventry on Tuesday Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Heritage Lottery Fund and The reinvestment Trust will be there. Paul will attend. (Liz shared an article about a £1000 fund to celebrate 25 years of the National Lottery to which we could apply to refurbish the entrance hall making it more suitable for a community café. Helen E will submit this by the Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> deadline.)
4. **Priorities for 2020 :**
  - i. **Accounts:** Pat felt we need to tighten up on event costings with a system of designated budget holders so that she can keep track of accounts. This was discussed. Pat will present a report at the next committee meeting.
  - ii. **Use of Pavilion:** Jane will set up a rota for children's parties and the community café at weekends. To go on the agenda for the Jan 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - iii. **Flat Green:** To increase use of the Flat Green. Encourage the return of the Centre for the Blind. Ken to contact the Earlsdon Retirement Village.
  - iv. **Tennis:** The LTA will fund an electronic gate so that players can pay to access the courts. The surface needs cleaning and will need resurfacing in about three years. The committee approved the installation of a notice board for the tennis courts.
  - v. **Gardening:** The contractor is removing the laurel stump. Concern was expressed that little has been done to the plot allocated to Earlsdon School. There is a possibility of a gardening group being set up at the Gilbert Richards centre that could work in conjunction with the school. Diane Slocombe will investigate this in January. Also the Earlsdon Retirement Village could be involved. If no gardening group offers to take over the area, it would make a nice sunny seating area. The school should

be approached to see if they want to continue as at present the area is very unsightly.

**5. Volunteer Appeal:** Our article in the ECHO advertised a meeting for volunteers in the pavilion on Saturday Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. This will need to be advertised in the New Year. Jane will ask Anthony to make posters. Word of mouth contacts will be useful. Facebook and the Web Page. To be discussed at the January meeting.

**6. Santa event** Saturday Dec 21<sup>st</sup>. The planning sub-committee did not take place. Zilpha has cakes, Jane will buy mince pies, Carol will make Christmas biscuits. Debbie will organise a tombola- needs prizes. Dal will be Santa – Ken is reserve. Helen E getting outfit. Christmas card activity in pavilion. Santa's grotto in pavilion. Helen E will run Santa search – Karen to assist with stickers to see Santa. Gazebo for buggies with sign. Possible carol singing from 2 till 2.30pm

**7. Bowling Greens:** Not discussed as no one was present from Albany Bowls.

**8. Training events:** Zilpha will attend *Introduction to Ecology* on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>. Karen to attend *Volunteer management* Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**9. Gardening:** Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> and Jan 4<sup>th</sup> 10-12

**10. A.O.B.:** MacMillan have thanked us for the contributions from the coffee morning.

**11. Next meeting:** Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>.

H.V.E. 4.12.2019