

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Friends of Charlton Park held on March 7th 2019 in the Big Red Bus Club, Charlton Park. The meeting began at 8.30pm

Attendance

Those present: Annie Keys (Chair), Trisha Anderson, Hazel and John Greig-Midlane, Kay Pemberton, Stuart, Ashleigh Marsh, Allan MacCarthy.

Apologies for Absence: Elizabeth Rutherford-Johnson

Minutes of 2018 AGM

These were agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

Chair's Report

Annie reported on the Friends' achievements, including four, quarterly, walkabouts with Park's staff which resulted in the resolution of a number of issues including regarding food waste dumping, signage in the park, extra bins and a number of repairs including the water fountain.

She further reported on:

The Green Flag award judges had also met Annie and Trisha on a walkabout. They took the opportunity to share the Friends' vision for the park and to highlight its various positive features.

Our first Parksfest event had been very successful, over 500 people were recorded as attending during the day which had been scorching weather and noting that the team had had a very short time indeed in which to organise it

Green Chair Walk; discrepancies about signage and responsibility for this had been raised with GLA member Len Duvall and RBG Cabinet Member Denise Scott-McDonald for clarification. Ian Bull, previously officer responsible for RBG Green Chain walk, has agreed to be a future speaker on the subject in conjunction with the Charlton Society.

The public toilets in the cemetery had been reopened following the Committee's intervention with the council. However, details of the cleaning contract, which we had also been requested, had not been supplied. We do not therefore know the deep clean schedule.

Sports lighting: A petition, which the Friends' committee had organised, on this had been presented to Greenwich Council. It was agreed that, if the Friends can raise funds, these can be installed.

Wild Flower Meadow: The committee's discussions with David Willoughby (senior parks person RBG), regarding the Friends' proposal for this to be established in Charlton Park in that area previously used by the King's Troop RHA continue.

Secretary's Report

Trisha presented more details on proposals for Parksfest at the end of June 2019 which the Friends were organising and running. This included that the committee, for the Friends, were working with Global Fusion and volunteers were being recruited to make this happen. The intention was to have a whole afternoon event with live bands, skateboard demonstrations and a wide variety of community stalls.

Election of Committee

Ashleigh proposed that there be a special general meeting in the autumn and that the committee should remain unchanged pro tem but that there be a Special General Meeting in the autumn so that changes, if any – including new members, could take place then. This was because Parksfest,

the Friends' largest annual event, was so close to the current AGM's date. As committee members were heavily involved with its planning and on the day, this would enable new members time to become better engaged with it.

The meeting referred this to the committee to consider with the underlying reason understood.

Asked for new members, Kay Pemberton came forward and the meeting endorsed her joining the committee. The meeting agreed to reappoint the other, current, committee members. Stuart was also given a non-voting liaison position (noting his business interest).

Constitution

Asheigh asked that the Constitution be re-examined by the committee to ensure that it works for the future business of the committee.

Other Business

The meeting agreed to consider other items outside of AGM business, viz:

1. Stuart reported that the plans for Burgess Park included a barbeque area. He wondered what our plans were for developing one in Charlton Park. Annie advised that RBG were resistant to barbecues in their parks.
2. Biodiversity in the Park. Could a talk be organised on this?
3. Charlton Academy: building materials related to works at the Academy were occupying about half of the car park. What impact did this have, noting that RDA need about that much space too as do the community sports groups for access reasons?

With no further business the meeting closed at about 9.30pm