

**Minutes from Friends of Nuttall Park Meeting
2nd August, 2011, 7pm
Nuttall Park Ranger Base**



1. Present

Carragh Teague
 Gwenda Newton Peter Emmons
 Janet Smith Glennys Nicholls
 Ellen Lomas John Leyland
 Kate Bell Lynn Leyland-Mather
 Norman Newton Ted Wilkinson
 David Johnston Alison Wilkinson
 Margaret Emons Clr Joanne Columbine

2. Apologies

Ron Berry
 Brenda Richards
 Jean Hughes
 Shirley Kenyon
 Clr Ian Bevan

GN opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. Carragh welcomed as Ron is absent due to ill health.

Joanne Columbine, local councillor, welcomed also Ted and Alison Wilkinson who attended meeting on behalf of their son George, who has volunteered to help F of NP in connection with the environmental section of his Chief Scout and Duke of Edinburgh awards.

GN expressed thanks to Ellen for working on the perennial garden.

3. Updates from last meeting *(some items will be discussed in the meeting and therefore not mentioned here)*

Wildflower Meadow – growing much better now but patchy.

As mentioned by Ron perhaps some trace elements next year would improve the soil for wildflower growing.

Peter (M) to carry out a wildflower survey in the park with Ron .

Matting area - Not sure if Ron has liaised with grounds department for more soil.

Compound – Balsam cleared inside compound. Not ordered shed yet. Knotweed needs treatment.

Knotweed – message left with Graham Schoon to find out if one more spraying is due and what can be done with the area afterwards.

Activity Trail – Timberline repaired clatterbridge, no cost. Bikes have been riding over it and this could be cause of damage. We now have spares if this happens again and Ron has been given permission to repair when necessary.

Maintenance by the group would be beneficial – arrange varnishing day.

Churches Event – v successful. Thank you to all who helped before or on the day.

Playground – Kate reported that the swings have now been replaced, the safety surfaces and other items repaired and painted and the playground is looking much better. There is still a possibility that a new piece of equipment may be forthcoming and she thanked Tom Buggie and Ian Bevan for their efforts.

PM

RB

GN

GN

4. IER Lectern – now arrived but A4 portrait not landscape so information sheets are being reprinted.

5.Events/Tasks Sheet – from the 7 completed task sheets received the following results were drawn:-

7 votes - River bank clean up, balsam control, bug houses/hotel, hazel hurdles, wild flower meadow work.

5/6 votes - Boulder area, lantern parade, completion of storytelling area, wuds for fun day, play equipment maintenance.

4 or less votes – Tai Chai, smelly benches, more bottle top art, rhododendron cutting back, tree thinning, pumpkin carving (this is included in the Lantern Parade)

This would indicate that the tasks we complete at the moment are to continue with the addition of some new but not all suggestions.

6.Lantern Parade – Sat 29th October Four rangers will assist but we will need extra hands as we had 10 rangers last year. Youth Service, Rotary, Peel Lions, Ramsbottom Football Club and scout groups to be approached for help. George Wilkinson to help if available.

Agreed to have donation buckets at entrances and more prominent buckets on stalls.

Parade to be lit by leader with lantern rather than glo-sticks around park.

More groups would be good around the park (eg witches) **volunteers needed.**

GN appealed for members to help on the day and also to think of ideas for stalls, events etc.

Burger van and face painter to be booked.

GN
RB

ALL

ALL

GN

7.Holidays at Home 2012 –

Gwenda gave details of this event which would involve the group in a one day event following a week of cultural and sporting events organised by other groups.

This could possibly include – brass band, coconut shy, assault course etc.

The National Street Choir Festival may be held on the preceding weekend GN to contact them for more information.

Agreed to find dates and Choir involvement details and discuss at a future meeting.

GN

8.AOB – Lynn gave details of Apple Day to be held in the park on 16th October. She also invited people to apple pick at the orchard.

Ranger Play scheme leaflets distributed.

Circular flower bed to be re-planted with perennials as £500 has been provided by Mike Bent. Ron and Kevin, gardener, to prepare ground for planting in the autumn. Will need to buy soil or soil improver.

Glennys to invite Lord Lieutenant to Lantern Parade.

**Next meeting – Tuesday 13th September, 7pm
Please let GN know if you are unable to attend**

GleN

