

## **Friends of South Park**

### **Minutes of Second Annual General Meeting Thomas's School January 25, 2010 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

1. Notice of Meeting

The Chairman advised that three emails had been sent to members; a notice of the meeting had been posted on the web site since before Christmas; and the Council arranged to have posters put up around the park.

2. Apologies for Absences

Apologies were received from committee members Beth Patrick, Gloria Guy and Andrea Street. Apologies from a few members were received via email. The Chairman also thanked four special guests for their attendance: Council Member Frances Stainton, Ben Binnell of Quadron Services, Park Development Officer Rob Kelly and Community Sports Officer Chris Bunting

3. Approval of Minutes of Inaugural Annual General Meeting on Jan 27, 2009

The minutes were approved.

4. Annual Report of 2009

Chairman Anthony Williams read the annual report aloud and it was received and accepted by those in attendance. A copy is attached to these minutes. James Cooke, FOSP Committee member, also spoke about a new strategic review process the FOSP will conduct this winter and early spring regarding different facets of the pending Master Plan, including the first two working groups to discuss the children's play area and potential commercial/revenue producing opportunities for Clancarty Lodge.

5. Member's Questions

Q. How could we better police rubbish in the park left by sports teams?

A. Some suggested placing more rubbish bins; others suggested banning littering teams from returning to the park. Chris Bunting said he needs dates and times of incidents in order to address the issue with teams.

Q. Given the high use of the current tennis courts, if/when will the other 2 courts be reinstated?

A. FOSP Committee reiterated that this is a priority on our agenda for 2010.

Q. Is the sale of the Clancarty Lodge still an open issue?

A. The FOSP Committee is still opposed to the sale of the Lodge and will be examining alternative options for funding its restoration and for potentially commercially viable opportunities for the Lodge. A discussion ensued about potential options and those options were noted and will be discussed in the forming working group, members suggested a questionnaire of park users. When directly questioned, Cllr. Stainton would only say that the lodge was not currently on the market.

Q. Can permanent onsite park management be reinstated?

A. This seems highly unlikely in today's financial situation.

Q. Is it possible to get a court injunction for the sale of Clancarty Lodge?

A. At this time, FOSP Committee doesn't believe that this is necessary.

Q. What funding is available for the restoration and improvement of South Park?

A. Council Member Stainton would only say there was money for play areas. One member reiterated James Cooke's suggestion for phased development.

#### 6. Membership

FOSP Secretary reported that we have 225+ people on our email list and approximately 45 people who subscribed to FOSP in 2009; and encouraged members to pass along additional email contact names of those interested in the park, renew their subscriptions and become involved in working groups.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report

FOSP Treasurer reported that the accounts are overdrawn by approximately 200 pounds. Mention of the fundraising for Thomas's Corner was also noted and the Council thanked for their contribution to the money available for play equipment for 2-year-olds and younger.

#### 8. Election of Officer and Committee for the coming year

The same slate of officers and committee members was forwarded. By a show of hands, it was approved again for 2010.

#### 9. Any Other Business

Members thanked the committee for their work in 2009.