

Friends of South Park Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 12th 2016

Attendees: Andy Jones (AJ) Dianne Imthurn (DI) Clair Gordon (CG) Sue Gahan, (SG) Gloria Guy (GG)

Apologies: Jaimie Lester (JL), Alex Kennaugh (AK), Louise Barton (LB), Priscilla Ladha (PL) Amadhou, Sweder Van Iterson (SVI), Teo Catino (TC), Justin Kandiah (JK), Sean Gibbons (SB), Caroline David (CD), Julian Bray (JB)

Hammersmith & Fulham Rugby Club

Chris Cuthbertson (CC) visited the meeting, CC is the Chair of the Hammersmith & Fulham Rugby Club who mainly play out of Hurlingham Park. They have had a single pitch on the North East field of South Park for the last 4 years. The Club paid for the posts to be installed and pay for the pitch each week on a Sunday from 10am - 12noon from September – April regardless if they use the pitch or not. The South Park pitch is used as overflow (if required) from Hurlingham for the older boys training or mainly for matches.

CC and the Hammersmith & Fulham Rugby Club would like to add another, half size, pitch to the North West field of South Park as of immediate effect. They would pay for the posts and the posts installation. This second pitch would be used for 1 – 2 matches on a Sunday morning (11am – 1pm) for 13- 15yr olds between September – April each year.

The Committee commented that this is the exact time that the Community Dads team played on the North West pitch and that they would be reluctant to displace them.

CC said that they also would not want to displace anyone but could they talk to the Dads Football Team to see if they could negotiate time slots that would work for both.

CC also asked if any storage would be possible in South Park for their 4 post bumpers and 14 flags

Actions:

AJ to speak with the Football Dads and introduce them to CC and his team for time slot / pitch negotiations.

CG to look into storage and report back to CC.

Bicycle Polo

GG had been in discussion with the Bicycle Polo team who have requested storage space when the current storage space goes.

Action: GG to find out exact square footage required and report back so that this can potentially be added into the plans for the new changing rooms / storage area.

GG had also been asked if a Bicycle Polo International Championship Weekend could take place in South Park in the Summer of 2017. Teams would be from UK, India, Germany, USA, Canada and possibly Argentina. The group gathered were in unanimous decision that this would be fantastic but the following should be considered:

- date in 2017 established asap and not to clash with any existing events i.e. Picnic / Paggs Cup
- all insurance provided and correct event organisation i.e. welfare etc.
- all rubbish collection etc. covered

Actions:

GG to go back and explain the above and come back with potential dates.

CG to speak with council and get initial approval from council.

CG also commented that the Bicycle Polo team had been worried about the state of the fields and the safety of the players due to this while playing. There are large holes in the turf and they asked when the council would be doing something about this.

Stalker

SG reported that the weekend of the 1/ 2 October there had been a stalker in South Park disturbing the evening dog walkers. It was presumed that Park Police was called. He has not been seen since

Action: AJ to contact Park Police to make sure they are aware of the situation.

Halloween

CG reported that 41 Haus boards advertising the Halloween Trick or Treat Trail had been put up which will bring in £1,025.00. Some of this will be spent on the event.

The Halloween event is in hand and will take place on Saturday 29th October.

Changing Rooms

CG reported that FOSP are currently working with the Council on the revamp of one of the changing room buildings. The other 2 building will need to be demolished as they are structurally past economic repair.

When the 2 buildings are down (the council can not say when) they will not be rebuilt on as all new build in the park will take place in the NW corner.

£45k of the Tideway money has been allocated to the changing room revamp.

The public loos and café will be repatriated to the NW corner.

Bees & Honey

The bees had a bad year according to the Bee Man. What honey there is Dianne and Clair will take to be processed in Victoria.

Action: DI and CG to speak on Friday re honey

Community Garden

LB and SG reported the following:

- Tideway volunteer weeding morning had been successful
- The kids from the local primary had been bulb planting in the community garden, around Beth's tree and around the edges of the rose beds opposite
- Pauline had also offered the edges of the rose beds along Settrington as a planting option for the kids
- SG would like to build 2 new raised beds. Wood has been given by Pauline but needs collection. Tideway are also looking to see if they have spare wood
- Money was requested for soil for the new beds and DI suggested the Heritage Garden Bank Account. The committee were told that this money is being used by AK for legal costs associated with the NW corner and CIC proposal.
- Committee agreed that money from the main FOSP account can be used for soil / wood / wood collection if required.

Actions:

CG to speak to Jules re the van and Tideway and Pauline to liaise with wood pick up.

DI to let Committee know as and when they need soil.

SITA Biodiversity Corner

CG reported that the project finally seemed ready to go.

The council had contacted CG to say that only 1 tender for the project had been valid and that this was over budget. The only good thing with this tender was that it was from a known and very good firm.

The way the council felt we could proceed and keep SITA happy and come within budget was to **not** remove the York Stone as originally planned. A site meeting will take place to discuss this.

Action: CH and DI to meet Pauline and Heather Marsh on site on Friday to discuss and report back.

Cricket Pavilion

The council have said that the currently empty Cricket Pavilion can be used by the Friends Group in the short term. A contract must be drawn up and insurance taken out by the Friends Group. Awaiting Dave Page's return from holiday to action the next steps on this.

Action: AJ and CG to meet with DP in 2 weeks time. CG to schedule the meeting

Sport Bookings

The council have said that FOSP can tender to take over the Sports Bookings and sports maintenance of south Park. This is early days and CG is currently looking into the cost feasibility of this. She is speaking with Friends of Brook Green who have currently done this as well as Hurlingham Park who are also considering this action. Also she is on contact and taking advice from the Institute of Groundsmanship.

Action: CG will keep the Committee updated.

Next Meeting

The next meeting, will be held on Tuesday 29th November, 7.30pm at Paggs. There will be a short meeting 7.30 – 8.30pm followed by a Christmas Drink.

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