

FRIENDS OF MARPLE MEMORIAL PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 24th JANUARY 2005

MINUTES

Present:

Peter Clarke, Brian Nash, Chris Armitt, Mr & Mrs Ken Wilson, Bob Wilson, Mark Whittaker, Dave Burrows, Adrian Ellis, Micaela Wood, Bill Arden, Richard Booker.

Apologies

Peter Bardsley, Sally Curley, Jay Havolena

Annual General Meeting

Peter opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He informed the group that Sally Curley was leaving for a new job, he thanked her for all her hard work and wished her luck in the future.

Chairpersons Report

Peter congratulated the group on their hard work and success over the last year. Here are some of the achievements of the group.

The Friends have their own web site linked to the Marple home page. The website has an online survey form, which has received over 20 replies commenting on what is good and not so good about the park.

A newsletter has been produced and delivered to 500 houses in the area near to the park.

A Notice Board has been installed at the entrance to the park.

At a task day held on the park 200 wild flower bulbs were planted. Peter thanked the young people from Marple Youth Centre who put on a barbecue for all the volunteers on that day.

The Friends Group has forged strong links with park user groups and local primary schools.

£50 000 has been raised to install a new junior play area in the park.

The heritage stocks in the park have been restored.

The park was awarded a Green Flag.

Future projects.

The Friends are involved in the following projects.

Cycle path and lighting that will go through the park

Providing more seating areas in the park.

Organise a graffiti artist to paint the bmx ramps.

Treasurers Report.

Peter passed around a copy of the treasurers report which had been put together by Jay Havolena. The group would like to thank local accountant Robert Smallman who audited the Friends Account.

The group will start 2005 with £596.33 although Peter explained that some of this money was already committed to pay for the new picnic tables.

Election of Officials.

Chairperson- Peter Clarke was nominated for re election and the group agreed acknowledging the huge part he had played in the groups success so far.

Treasurer- Jay Havolena resigned her position. Mark Whittaker was nominated and elected by the group.

Secretary- this position remains vacant.

The General Meeting

Picnic Benches.

Dave Burrows proposed the group purchase the standard picnic tables, as the suggested siting for the benches would be unsuitable for disabled access. The standard benches will be built and set in place by the probation services for approx £100 each. Dave Burrows will action this.

Jim's Bench Fund-update & Account

The J. Heald Bench Fund, £489 has so far been raised for the bench. A list of the contributors to the fund has been passed to all members of the group. Capricorn Signs will also engrave a plaque for the bench at no cost. Richard will get some brochures of benches to the group.

Football net

Funding for one set of football post and nets has been agreed by the (P.A.Y.P) *positive action for young people*, via Kay Blair and to be ordered by Dave Burrows, An area in the park has been selected by Adrian and Peter that are well away from the Bowling green. The nets will be 5 a side style nets with no netting.

Litter

The group is concerned about the amount of litter in the park especially coming from people using Greggs. Peter has been in consultation with the police and the Local Community Ranger about running an initiative to crack down on litter dropping by issuing on the spot fines. Peter will contact the Community Rangers.

Newsletter

To be discussed further at the next meeting but volunteers are needed to write short articles for the newsletter. It is hoped that a newsletter will be sent out in spring.

Parks Action Plan

Dave Burrows passed around a copy of the Councils action plan for Marple Park. Both Dave and Adrian think it would be positive if the Council and the Friends had a combined action plan for the year. If anyone wants to propose an action Peter will collate them and pass them on to Dave. The action plan needs to be completed by the end of the month.

Junior Play Area Consultation

Richard told the group that consultation packs had been sent out to six of the local primary schools in Marple. There was also going to be a public consultation exercise held in Marple Library on the 25th January between 2-5pm, everyone is welcome to come along.

Mark requested Richard send him information on the consultation so that it can be displayed on the website.

AOB

The option of installing a dummy CCTV camera in the park was raised. Peter felt that this was no longer a viable option as a sign would have to be placed next to the camera to say it was a dummy camera.

Peter informed the group that the Marple Locks Festival will be held on 10th July.

Chris informed the group that the Carnival will be on Saturday 18th June this year. The Friends would like to organise a float for the occasion. The theme will be Fairy tales and Nursey Rythmes.

Work on the new cycle path has started.

Date of next meeting Monday 21st February 6.30pm Marple Library