

Friends of Sir Joseph Hood Memorial Playing Field

Minutes of meeting on Sunday 5th January at 1030 at the Earl Beatty

Present

Martin
Bernie
Jonna
Steve
John

Apologies

Ruth
Hannah

We were delighted to welcome Steve Forster to the meeting and hope he will want to come again
He introduced his friend Eddie who expressed an interest in getting involved
Later we met Nicola and Dan in the park and they too expressed an interest in getting involved

i) DBS

John's DBS still not sorted out
Action: John to discuss with Martin

ii) Posters

It was agreed that posters would refer to the "first Sunday of the month" so that they did not need to be changed every month
Martin undertook to consider Ruth's comments
Action: Martin to produce and display posters
Action: John advise Clare Townsend (editor of The Guide) of meeting dates so they can be publicised in The Guide

future upgrades:
QR codes could be added to posters to link to website (when website fixed)

iii) Website and Social Media

Martin is to meet Nick on Wednesday 8th January

iv) Blossom House

No further developments
Action: Martin to contact Ross

v) Horticultural Society

It would be useful to make contact with the Horticultural Society
They may want to be involved in the event for Motspur Park100
The contact is Diane Walker
John to contact Diane
Martin said he may call in at the Horticultural Society

vi) Merton Council

There are a lot of areas where we need engagement from the Council

These are:

Replacement of the Hut (provision of enlarged base, water supplies)

July 12th event

Additional bins

Gasworks development

Defibrillator (installation)

Grid in pathway to improve drainage

Distance measurement

vii) Gasworks development

Tom Fox of Berkeley Homes has reached out to Martin

They propose a bridge (over the brook) giving residents direct access to the park

This would add considerable value to the development

We should be able to negotiate some benefits

Although the site is in Kingston, Merton Council would need to approve the link to the park

John will contact Paul Kohler whose constituency includes the site and surrounding area in Kingston

Martin to meet Tom Fox

viii) Fulham Foundation

No developments.

John to press for an update from Anthony Hopkins

ix) Bio-diversity net gain

new planning rules require developers to improve bio-diversity

If the development does not deliver an increase in bio-diversity then compensating positives have to be provided elsewhere

Schemes eligible for net gain schemes have to be registered

Apparently this is quite onerous but if we could get the park registered we could attract bio-diversity funding from a wider area

Action - John follow up

x) ID Verde

If we provided additional rubbish bins would IDVerde empty them?

John to contact Zolte (IDv)

xi) Motspur Park 100

John has submitted an application for an event to be held on Saturday July 12th

There will need to be risk assessments and insurance details provided

John will liaise with the Council to confirm the arrangement and find out if there is a template for the risk assessment

Martin is used to doing these in his school role.

John will ask for the paddling pool to be open that day

xii) Defibrillator

no response yet from the British Heart Foundation

It was agreed that training could be given by St John's Ambulance

-we would invite all the main users of the park so there was always likely to be someone experienced around when sport was being played

It was thought that the defibrillator would not require codes etc to access

xiii) New Hut

This is on the Merton Council list

John will escalate as we have waited months for a response from AK

Plan B could be some repairs and repainting of the existing hut

it was noted that the minimum wage rates for 2025 will be significantly higher than last year

xiv) Boardwalk

Martin to finish the designs

John said that the Barretts person would be available next week

re volunteer labour from construction workers

xv) Bank Mandate, Sum Up

At last the bank mandates have been accepted

Bernie and Martin to check that Sum-Up is still working

xvi) Alf Accott

It was agreed that we would continue an annual Alf Accott award

It was agreed that Bernie could bring it up to date recognising the contribution of the previous Friends team

At a later stage we can select a winner for 2024

A name was proposed and generally approved

xvii) Annual Accounts, AGM

Bernie presented the accounts for 2024

This will be subject to a resolution at the AGM

It was agreed that the AGM would be held during the April meeting

xviii) Measuring the path

Jonna has purchased a measuring wheel

The scheme to mark distances along the path around the field was discussed

It was agreed that a circle every 200 metres with the number of metres from the start would be appropriate

John said he would try to contact Conways to see if they would do it for free

(Conways are the contractors for Merton road re-surfacing and re-lining)

xix) Drainage

Steve observed that water flows from the area beyond the playing field

and contributes to flooding

If there was a grid in the path the water could be directed into the newly enlarged ditch and then into the brook

This to be added to the list of items to discuss with Merton Council (item vi above)

xx) Faith in Action

It was agreed that posters advertising the concert in aid of Faith in Action on Saturday 10th May at St Matthews Church, Raynes Park being given by the London Welsh Male Voice Choir could be promoted in the notice boards

xxi) Notice Board

The perspex on one of the notice boards has been broken
If the Council won't repair it then we can

xxii) Next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Sunday 2nd February** at the Earl Beattie at 1030
Eddie said he might attend
Nicola and Dan (who were litter picking today) will be invited
After the meeting we will tidy the hut (as well as litter pick weather permitting)

Subsequent meetings will be:

Sunday March 2nd 2025

Sunday April 6th 2025 (note Easter is 20/04/2025) **AGM**

Sunday May 4th 2025 (bank holiday weekend)

(John on holiday)

Sunday June 1st 2025

Sunday June 1st 2025

Sunday June 1st 2025

Sunday July 6th 2025

Sunday August 3rd 2025

Sunday September 7th 2025

Sunday October 5th 2025

Sunday November 2nd 2025

