

**Friends of Eaton Park
Committee Meeting held in the Community Centre,
29 January 2008 at 7pm**

1. **Minutes of last meeting**
These were accepted.
2. **Matters arising**
None.
3. **Correspondence**
 - 3.1 Christine reported that Heart (Radio Broadland), Santa Fun Run, which took place last December raised £11,000. There are plans to run the event again in 2009.
 - 3.2 Fiona sent information to FOEP about Norwich Ecoawards. This year we haven't applied but if the award is annual we could do in the future.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
 - 4.1 Vic asked for clarification of figures presented in column 2 where it was clarified that the names are those of individuals paying for their memberships. Vic commented that it is unusual and not necessary to account individually for membership income.
 - 4.2 Vic proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer. This was agreed.
5. **Fundraising**
 - 5.1 Judith confirmed that Friends of Eaton Park are getting £231 from Waitrose. FOEP was one of three charities targeted by the supermarket for December.
 - 5.2 The question was raised of whether we need to set up a fundraising group. Judith proposed and it was agreed that we hold off setting up such a group until we have a clear fundraising target. This will mean we can target specific funds.
 - 5.3 In the mean time, the Norfolk Wildlife Trust report includes a range of items for which we can deploy or raise funds. Christine suggested an 'adult play area'. Agreed if we establish a need for this it we will be in a much stronger position – Space Shaper Survey might help for this.
6. **Environment, RSPB and wildflower meadow**
 - 6.1 Some of the bulbs we have planted are already growing.
 - 6.2 Fiona is currently re-negotiating the contract with City Care for site maintenance and changing their work specification. She plans to turn the dog area across from the children's play area a wildflower meadow. She has been advised that this will involve changing the mowing regime, which will see wildflowers appearing naturally. Additionally plug planting could supplement the creation of the meadow. Fiona suggested this as a spring FOEP event. It was agreed that the friends would take on this project and fund some plug planting. Play Rangers and local schools could be invited to take part. Paul Holley Natural Areas Officer will advise on plant suppliers and Fiona will get costs. Agreed, details to be finalised at next meeting.
 - 6.3 Christine has contacted RSPB to ask if they would like to do anything in the park. They are interested in coming to the park for a day when they

would bring a stand, binoculars etc Christine to feed back to them that one of our event day or school holidays in Easter and May would be ideal.

- 6.4 Ann suggested we invite Norfolk Wildlife Trust to do a moth survey as an activity for members and to get more data to support our environmental work. Agreed Ann to look in to this as a possible June or July FOEP activity.
- 6.5 Eva asked whether people felt that litter was a problem in the park and whether the committee felt there was a need for signs to discourage littering. It was not felt that this was sufficient a problem for any action to be taken.

7. **Space shaper survey**

- 7.1 Christine reported that she and Judith had been on a 'Space Shaper Survey' training event run by Centre for Architecture and the Built Environment. The session involved using one of the survey's to look at Chapelfield Gardens. Christine suggested FOEP undertake its own survey. This would help identify projects for which we can seek to raise funds.

To use Space shaper involves a minimum of 20 people and would cost £1,000. Maggie Fink is being trained up to undertake SSS but is likely to have only limited time to work with us. Fiona suggested creating our own form and delivering our own market research. Christine and Helen agreed to draft a FOEP survey drawing on ideas from the Space Shaper Survey but tailoring it to our needs.

Christine said the form could also be sent to key local groups as well as people in the park. Liz suggested we ask people whether they would be interested in having more notice boards in the park.

8. **Events**

- 8.1 There was a discussion around whether we should promote an event day on 7 June Friends. It was agreed that we should not take responsibility for the day but that we should ask to have a stand to promote FOEP alongside the band that day.
- 8.2 Eva introduced Danny Whitehouse who is a student at UEA. He has 15 to 20 friends who play acoustic instruments and they do occasional informal jamming in Eaton Park. The Friends expressed interest and support for the idea. Christine will make a mention of the jamming sessions as an occasional activity on the website.

9. **Café update**

Nicky will be offering a breakfast menu from this weekend. This is in response to requests from visitors to the café. He hopes to do the same for summer and spring. Information about the café in the notice board needs replacing and new details with opening hours supplied. Additionally there is a need for a price list inside. Nicky agreed to arrange for these.

10. **Double yellow lines near school**

Fiona showed the group where new double yellow lines are going to be installed and asked for feedback. None were raised.

11. **Any other business**

- 11.1 Vic asked whether some of the existing, under-used benches could be renovated and re-sited. Fiona said she would raise this consideration.

Shortage of funds have meant that new benches scheduled for 2008/9 financial year have now been moved into 2009/10 financial year.

- 11.2 Julie informed people that Bert Bremner has sent a strongly worded letter to the council about students and lecturers parking and taking parking spaces from visitors.

12. **Date, time and place of next meetings**

Meetings will take place on the last Thursday of each month at 7pm in Eaton Park Community Centre.

26 February 2009

26 March 2009

30 April 2009

28 May 2009

25 June 2009

30 July 2009

27 August 2009

24 September 2009

29 October 2009

26 November 2009 (AGM)

10 December 2009 (Xmas get together)