

Friends of Eaton Park
Minutes of Committee Meeting 25th June 2009
Community centre Eaton Park

1 Minutes of last meeting

These were approved.

2 Matters arising

Peter Batchelor had phoned and written to thank us very much for our card and the vouchers. His letter was passed round.

Friends of Earlham Park has wound up and given us the remainder of their funds (£149.14). Christine has thanked them. It was suggested we write and ask if any of the ex members want to join Eaton Park friends.

Action point: Christine to do this

Following on from last meeting Kevin suggested a dove cote in Eaton Park similar to that which was in Earlham Park, perhaps in the rose garden. There were concerns about vandalism. Kevin suggested the railway enclosure instead. It was noted the railway people would have to agree.

Action point: Kevin to contact Fiona to broach the idea.

It was confirmed that there is a play in the children's area of the park every Sunday.

4 Correspondence

There has been some correspondence concerning dog-walking. Kevin suggested we ask the dog warden to drop by occasionally.

Action point: Put dog-walking on the agenda when Judith is present

Action point: Eva to phone the Council to clarify whether dogs have to be kept on leads at all times

There has been a request from the Council for the Friends to help maintain the flower beds in the rose garden. This received a mixed response but the meeting was not averse to the idea.

We need an membership secretary to deal with renewals.

Action point: make membership secretary an item for the next agenda

An email from the Council to Judith reported that disabled parking would be reinstated as from this coming Saturday (27th June). Derek said he was delighted to hear that.

The resurfacing of the hard tennis courts has been completed and lines painted and they should be open soon.

Nicky has been given some chess sets by Eva for the café and it was suggested chess should be encouraged.

The wildlife spotting book in the café has been badly defaced.

Action point: Ann to clean up book and add new pages

5 Events update

The Moth Hunt was deemed a success. 50 people attended and the publicity by Helen was much applauded. Christine said that events must be introduced by a member of the committee in order that the profile of Friends of Eaton Park be maintained. A press cutting was passed round and Harry has it now.

6 Friends' stalls on 7 and 21 June

The stalls were deemed a great success. It was decided to have a stall whenever there is an event such as a band or particularly the Santa run 6th December. The tombola raised £130.41 and it was decided to continue them at events. The historical display attracted a lot of interest. Christine suggested we invest in our own display boards to save borrowing them from the Council each time. She will look into costs.

7 Norwich in Bloom

Vic had proposed that Eaton Park be included in the judging this year. Christine had supplied Friends of Norwich in Bloom with details of what the Friends had done since 2007 and this would be passed to the judges. This was an impressive list of which we can be proud. It is on the website. Vic emphasised it was an organisation of international tanding and it was a feather in the cap of Eaton Park that they had included the Park. They will visit on Friday 10 July from 12.05 to 12.15 pm. Helen will present the Friends. Ann, Harry and possibly Eva will meet them in the carpark. Wear your name badges. Fiona has been asked to tell the gardeners. It was proposed that any residual litter be picked up during the morning walk. They are only visiting the rose garden and the train area.

8 Treasurer's report

Peter Walton has been paid for the moth hunt (£120). The present balance is £1780.30. The Breathing Spaces money has all been spent. There is £310 after the room hire has been paid left from the Council's intitial grant of £1000. This should have been spent by March.

9 Bowls Club

It has been reported in the paper that the Bowls Club wants more members. It was suggested that they put their contact details on one of the notice-boards. Christine pointed out it is on the website. Vic suggested that we set up an alternative bowls club. This was welcomed.

10 Future events and activities

Vic suggested we make full use of the free What's On page in the paper to advertise events in the park.

Regular litter-picks were called for every 6 – 8 weeks. It was commented the walkers on a Friday always litter-pick as they are walking.

11 Survey update

Christine has received 60 – 70 completed surveys. Ideally we need 100 – 150. Christine thanked people for helping and asked that we continue.

Liz to check on return of surveys by members of the community centre

12 Replacement park-keeper

It seems the Council is talking of a part-time park-keeper covering three parks. The meeting felt strongly that we need a designated park-keeper as soon as possible for public order and as a central point of contact.

Action points: Christine to contact relevant councillors

13 Any other business

Kevin to ask Ian Couzens to check the accounts

In view of the ideas that had come up on future events, Christine proposed that a sub committee be set up. This was seconded by Vic. We should consider at a future meeting.

Christine was concerned about the exclusion of members from meetings and activities. It was decided to wait for a full meeting before deciding whether to make meetings open.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.

14 Date and place of next meeting

30 July 2009, 7.00 pm, Community Centre Eaton Park

