



Shakespeare Neighbourhood Residents' Association (SNRA) and Butterfield Green Users Group (BUG)
Minutes of General Meeting
Wednesday 9 September 2009 at SWAPA

Present

Phil Jakeman	Pat O'Leary	Diane Watts
Wendy Mitchell	Tom Barber	Annie Wilson
Christophe Lutard	Bron Jones	Amos Turvey
Maggie Chattaway	Peter Jones	Susanne Gustowsson
Nick Holder	Keith Magnum (chair)	Pritpal Singh
Ash Singh	Sara Milburn	Vivienne Jones
David Larkin	Rob Kinch	Ken Rorrison
Liz Stanbury	Nell Cameron (minutes)	A Simpson

Apologies

Agnes Benko	Mairin Power	Andy Clough
Diane Dyer	Ulla Winfler	Karen Alcock
Harry Hadaway		

Butterfield Green Users Group

1. Meeting with Eleanor Johnson on 5th September (Parks Liaison Officer: Eleanor.Johnson@hackney.gov.uk)

Present : Maggie, Bron, Annie El. **Apologies**: Julie, Pat

This was a very useful and positive meeting

Starbucks Day Wednesday 21st September.

Starbucks are offering volunteers and money to improve parks. We suggested they clear ivy from trees and areas of BG and provide money for bulbs to be planted on Community gardening days.

BUG to let El know what we want within week

The Swings

The surface under the swings has failed a safety check. Swings are being re ordered next week.

The Stream

EI has a meeting on 15th September with the Fointaineers a specialist firm; they had given a quote for work a year ago.

Learning Trust have agreed to give £2,000 to fix stream but this won't be enough Michael Dixon from Hackney Parks doesn't want to spend capital funding on fixing stream that he thinks is Learning Trusts' responsibility.

Maintenance issues

Concerns expressed about maintenance of stream and Park.

EI reported on a proposed new system in which ground staff can submit concerns anonymously to management. Park users group can also submit concerns directly to EI – see e-mail address.

Action: will put Eleanor's contact details on the website

Parks Newsletter and website

EI is publishing a parks newsletter, poster on gardening days in BG submitted for publication. Maggie will give EI information about BG to put on website.

Love Parks Week 24th July- 1st August 2010

Suggestions for events to EI by 7th October, ideas from general meeting included an outdoor film show and picnic

Protocol for Users Groups

Needs to be agreed by park users groups and signed by groups and EI. Maggie raised concerns about wording. Generally the draft looks good and we could sign up – idea is to overcome difficulties in the past between Hackney Parks Forum and the Parks Department, includes what to expect, maintenance agreements, etc)

3 Aims for BG

1. Agreed maintenance plan for park.
2. Table Tennis Table for BG, possibly behind the old electrical substation.
- 3 Sustainable planting for entrance to park

Reserve idea: Improving woodland and extending play areas.

The meeting also discussed ideas including an outside gym, community artist.

Always looking for volunteers to submit grant applications (e.g. Awards for All, Funding from Hackney PCT)

There was a discussion about lights in the alleyway along the side of the green: weighing up feeling of safety and keeping parks dark for the wildlife.

Some comments about the colour of the gate – possibly planting may improve it.

Update on the 'dip' – it has an adverse possession claim, which we have objected to in the past – householder would need to buy from LBH, which would not be possible.

Dogs

Damage to trees and equipment in park caused by dogs .A board of experts is being set up to discuss problem and offer solutions, e.g. setting up dog training courses (there is a pilot in Shoreditch).

Discussion in BUG meeting included: Islington has done some awareness training with dog-owners and found they didn't realise dogs were damaging trees; idea of hanging things off trees for dogs, a dog-specific area, think about including dogs in Love you Park week. There is only one dog warden in Hackney, problem may have increased as Finsbury Park has banned dogs without leads are now coming to Clissold Park.

2. Butterfield Green and Orchard Report (Annie)

- The monthly clear-up day will be on the 2nd Sunday of every month, between 2 – 5pm.
- Sunday 11th October is Apple Day, will combine with community gardening day in the orchard – plea for apple cakes, strudels, etc – publicity to come
- Regeneration and renewal magazine (BURA)) want to do an article about BG orchard – Annie is arranging this in a couple of weeks
- Hackney Park Forum will be held at Hackney Town Hall, 7pm, everyone welcome

3. Any Other Business

- Hackney Environmental Network: have a good social networking website which is connecting up community groups: could use to advertise and raise the profile of BUG, could set up our own 'mini-site' within it. Hackney Park forum is on and we are linked to this – **Will e-mail Keith details to circulate.**
- Agreed to change BGUG to BUG.
- Thanks to members of other residents associations for attending this part of the meeting
- Next BUG meeting Wednesday 9th December

Shakespeare Neighbourhood Residents Association

1. Milton Grove Youth Club/SWAPA

There is a youth centre 'hub' with 4 spokes, meaning that Milton Grove youth centre will get £500 000 for improvements. There will be a consultation on 17th September. Sounds very good – Keith will keep us updated on progress. It is proposed that work will start in November, when the club will move into the community hall, it is due to be finished in April/May.

This is the same timing as SWAPA building works (probably), SWAPA are looking for an alternative building – have thought about Zoomaraound, estates with community halls and are approaching tenants and residents associations regarding this. Club may also look at residential work. SWAPA have applied for planning permission, looking for total refurbishment, the building to be extended to the road, a new internal layout and outside canopy. Plans sound really positive.

- No problems reported with stop and search over the summer
- Questions about new surveillance cameras, some concerns about these, will put on agenda for the next meeting

2. Church Walk

Pat contacted the council about the condition of Church Walk. Subsequently they have installed 2 more bins and are cleaning the walk everyday, have put signs to remind dog owners to put waste in the bin.

The environmental health officers wants to come to a residents meeting – Pat will meet with them before to brief.

3. Palatine Road

As part of the east-west Olympic cycle route Palatine Road cycle path is going to be enhanced. There was a consultation with residents today about the plans, which include a double cycle route, more paving, new trees, landscaping.

Residents do not want benches and have expressed concerns about whether the new plans will mean cyclists travelling faster but overall feel it is a good idea to improve the quality of the space.

SNRA also support the proposal in principle:

Nick and Keith will write a generally supportive letter on behalf of SNRA,

4. Allen Road Update

A deli, health food shop and osteopath are signing leases now, ready to move in in January. The council are doing up the premises ready for this.

Keith will write a letter to Property Services about how pleased we are with these long-awaited developments

5. Any Other Business

- Thanks to Ulla for all her work on the newsletter, **Keith to work out how many we need for next time**
- **Estate Update:** 39 – 41 Allen Road is having their chronic damp problem sorted, Athlestone House is having window/roof refurbishment (some discussion about the desirableness (or otherwise of UPVC windows)), 8 Londesborough House – planning has been thrown out – huge sign up to petition from local residents. Aitken Court and Barbauld Road are going to be demolished. Lots of youth provision coming from local TRAs. Lots of refurbishments and improvements in council housing, including plans for street properties
- **Palatine Road Beds:** Wendy has a meeting with Pat Quigley at Horizon School. Andy to chase the council on this – any news?
- **Trees for Shakespeare Road:** Rob has contacted Hackney about this – if money comes through the road will be high on the list
- **Zoomaround:** a gymnastics club has obtained the lease: more information about the club on: www.nelgc.org
- **Gang and youth anti-social behaviour:** big reduction in incidents over the summer, which was great. CRIB and police work (and additional youth provision) must have contributed to this.

6. Date of next meetings:

- **Committee Meeting: 8pm, Wed 14 October 2009. To be held at SWAPA**
- **General Meeting: 8pm, Wed 9 December 2009**