

# FRIENDS OF MARKFIELD PARK

## FOMP Minutes Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Pavilion, Markfield Park

- **Agree on last minutes:** Maggie Hulson pointed out that her apologies from last month's minutes had been omitted, otherwise they were agreed.
- **Apologies:** Sonia & Abed Rabbaa (Pistachios Cafe), Frank Hunt (Area Park Manager, East, Haringey Council), Uma Nathan (Markfield Project), Aysin & Karen Djemil (Pistachio's Franchise Management).
- **Present & Introductions:** Deborah Cawkwell (FOMP Webmaster), Nadine Fraser, (FOMP Treasurer), Paul Ely (Head of Commissioning, Haringey Council), Luisa Baker, (Senior Client Project Officer), Charles Muganyi (Pastor, Woodberry Down Baptist Church), Janis Wales (Community Outreach Officer, Haringey Council), Ken Brereton, Fred Clark (Trustees, Beam Engine Museum), Sian Harrington (Associate Monitor, Heritage Lottery Fund), Maggie Hulson (Gladesmore Community School teacher and representative), Les Kitcher (Bowls Club member), G Robbins – aka Robbo (Bowls Club member).
- **Treasurer's report:** £390.20 in FOMP account including £20 donation from the water ball company at the 24<sup>th</sup> July event. NF
- **Making the Difference Funding Bid Update:** (DC) Nothing had been heard about the FOMP application but just a few hours ago there was communication from Councillor Claire Kober to say the funding committee were massively oversubscribed and officers were sent away to do some more work hence that is why we hadn't heard. She also said that she knew our bid was supported by councillors – albeit they had to arrive at a reduced sum but she said the award was one of the largest. It was agreed to be fantastic news! DC was thanked for her hard work producing the bid.
- **Beam Engine Update:** The last event 'London Open House' over two days were very successful recording over 600 visitors. This is the last official day's steaming until next April 2012. They are imminently preparing a schedule of events for 2012 but nothing until next April (KB). (MH) wondered if Gladesmore School had some money for steaming and maybe the FOMP too. (NF) was

resistant to spending the hard earned FOMP cash built up through holding community events when there had been negative discussions about the possibility of being included in the Museum's public liability insurance for an earlier park event. She said it was unfair to spend local people's money on a niche attraction which attracted visitors from outside the area.

- **Bowls Club Update:** The Bowls Club reported they have been waiting for months for the council to respond to various issues. One being the mains water needs to be turned off and a new collar fitted to easily enable watering of the new green. Also, green waste is not being collected. There is a brick building at the back of the green that has been housing a homeless person because it has not had a door fitted for the last twenty years. The £10k installation work on a new green earlier this year is shoddy with no money available for new seed, maintenance and Autumn feed. Only some works were being done right now, which cost money but are not effective and a waste in that those works do not make the green usable and that it has not been usable for 3 years. Club signs had been promised but never materialised. Through all this, it was reported that they still managed to come second in league although their club was nomadic.

The council said they had funded £10k to improve the green. The bowls club members responded by saying that the green is worse than ever now and works have not been carried through. They didn't roll the green and no one has inspected it. It needs attention now. The company took the money and ran. The council [will report this to Park's manager, Frank Hunt who will get in touch with the Bowl's club directly and it was asked for the users group and \(JW\) to be cc'd into the communication.](#)

The Bowls club also pointed out that if the school children used the showers, they will flood the pavilion. The council responded to say the water pressure is too great and lips are needed in showers. The clubs response was that there was no problem with the pressure but the fall on the shower floors are incorrect.

[The Council was asked to respond by the chairman \(KB\) to provide a schedule of works and to circulate that information to FOMP.](#)

[\(DC\) asked if there could be an agenda for parties to get together and get to a solution on these problems?](#)

- **Gate locking and barrier installation in park issues:** The group questioned how long it will take to install the gates in the park to stop cut through traffic from Crowland Road to Markfield Road.

(DC) explained the issues to the new members which are in Sept's minutes <http://www.markfieldpark.org.uk/meetings.php> (LK) said the Crowland Road gate padlock was very difficult to lock and unlock. This was agreed because of the size of the gate fastening which covered the locking mechanism which is very small and difficult to get your hand into. (DC) said as in last month's minutes, [Frank Hunt says he will work with the FOMP and partners to resolve the problem.](#) (JW) passed on a message from (FH) who confirmed that the installation of the gate and new locks will be by the end of October 2011.

- **Winter Fayre Event:** Date and time agreed Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2pm-6pm. (CM) explained to the committee how his church would like to be involved. The churches singing group, Inspirational Voices and the Karen Choir are willing to participate in the carol singing. The church also hosts a Winter Shelter with other Haringey churches during the coldest months of the year from December to March. This is supported by the church and community members and would love to have tables selling crafts at the event to raise money for the Winter Shelter scheme which supports homeless people with vital meals and washing facilities and shelter to survive the cold period. [\(CM\) and \(JW\) will meet to organise posters, publicity etc for this event.](#) It was suggested the pavilion is used on the day for face painting and other children related events such as Santa's grotto. (DC) asked (MH) if any children from school could make a buzz wire for the event?
- **AOB: Solar panels on the roof of the Beam Engine Museum.** (FC) said one company was offering free panels worth £1,400 per year but this offer has now unfortunately elapsed. He explained they can generate money because they would supply some electricity to the national grid as well as saving money on electricity. He also explained that the beam engine was installed to deal with an environmental issue of its time and this is another current environmental issue that needs addressing. He asked (SH) from the HLF if she thought it was a problem as the building is Grade II listed? He had already been advised against pursuing this by the boroughs planning office. (SH) said it could be a local issue rather than the view the HLF would take. Grade II buildings are more flexible. [She advised taking photo's from all angles to show if panels would be obvious.](#) It was noted that panels are not possible on green roof of café and Markfield Project's roof is overshadowed by Beam Engine building. (DC) said it underlines the historic value and would be good educationally for children. [\(PE\) asked \(JW\) to send details from Fred.](#)

- **AOB: Community Bulb planting.** Bulbs being offered by parks dept to community groups for public areas and parks to be planted in a community scheme. (FC) has applied for 1000 on behalf of FOMP and a planting day needs to be organised towards the end of November. [\(JW\) to get in touch with Octagon support unit to see if they will help and also produce posters in park asking for help](#) when a date is decided. BTCV will load out tools but cannot lead groups. (FC) said he was told my Michael Bury that he would help.
- **AOB: Football in park update.** Jamie Lees, Football Officer, Leisure Services at Haringey Council gave (JW) a message to say the interview process has been completed and Leisure Services are in the process of contacting clubs with news of decision based on the interview process. [The next step will be to create a meeting between the school and those other partners who will have access to the pavilion and football pitches. Pitches not worked on yet but expect parks and schools to liaise for a date during the October half term week.](#)
- **AOB: Songs of Praise:** (FC) knows a chaplain friend who has taken part in a Songs of Praise. Sometime in the future he would like to work with him to stage a show at Markfield Park attracting all creeds.
- **FOMP & Markfield Park: Setting our goals for the forthcoming year.** (DC) Asked the council and HLF representatives if there was any chance of extending the services of the Outreach Community Officer (JW) in Markfield Park? (PE) explained that Markfield Park is unique in having its own OCO – the only one in Haringey. It was a necessary requirement because of the demographics of the local area which has a diverse cultural and transient local community. However, it is not possible to retain this post by the council or HLF due to lack of funds and it is not seen as a priority. [\(SH\) suggested going to councillors/MP's to lobby the need for a development officer across for instance 3 parks in the area.](#) (PE) Would like to see a viable friend's group which would make a critical difference to the park. He suggested trying to increase FOMP membership. He also suggested getting in touch with Joan Curtis from Haringey Parks Forum for support. (NF) Reported she wrote to forum – not one reply. Also said the FOMP have tried everything especially lobbying locals at community events and handing out leaflets and publicising. She explained they have lost members due to other commitments and several being very upset with the café management issues from last November 2010. Only park partners and two FOMP members attend meetings regularly. [Will draft an email to Councillor Claire Kober to help get support for events in the park as only two active members of FOMP are unable to achieve this.](#)

- (CM) said that the park is beautiful and has improved considerably but without a FOMP it will go down. (PE) responded that although cuts have been made, the council is obligated to maintain Markfield Park to a good standard. He said the council will find a way to work and support the FOMP. (LB) can help with support when her work comes to an end at the Lordship Recreation Ground development programme.
- (DC) Asked if the FOMP can rely on (PE) for responses to emails. In NF's experience, this has not happened.
- (FC) – Partners need to pull together more.
- (KB) – Problems with charging for museum unlike other engines that can close off grounds and then charge.
- (SH) – [Suggested using the Visitor's survey analysis points to focus on at future meetings](#)
- (DC) – Reported she was working on a new website that would have specific pages for the myriad of park activities & stake-holders, which would enable those groups to update their own information. The current website was regularly updated and complied to web standards (W3C – World Wide Web Consortium), but now DC felt it was time to update the design & structure..

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm**

**[SPECIFIC ACTION POINTS highlighted and underlined](#)**