

# Friends of St George's Park

## 3rd February 2012

Held at the Red Man Inn, Blackwell Street



### Present

Spike Betterton - SB (Chair)  
John Stevenson - JS  
Roger Mayo - RM  
Fran Oborski - FO (Treasurer)  
Sue Tew - ST  
Carol O'Brien - CO  
Alan Breen - WFDC  
Justin Bryant - JB (Secretary)

### Apologies

Monika Boehmer  
Gehardt Kruckow  
Nicky Griffiths  
Rob Brown  
Stan Reeves  
CSO Rachel Harrision

Who	What
1	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SB welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li></ul>
2	<b>Finance Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invoice received from WFDC for the Kissing Gate. <b>ACTION: FO to raise Chq and pay invoice</b></li><li>• Jubilee Fund bid has been submitted to WFDC</li><li>• Vales Vets have started a fundraising project to raise money towards a new bench in the Park. They will be holding auctions, sponsored walks and selling gifts. This is being coordinated by Kerry. The group agreed this is really good and welcomed the opportunity to get involved where possible. JB will keep the group updated.</li></ul>

<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Benches</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Update</b>  Site meeting held on Monday with Sue, Cookie, Alan &amp; Spike. The idea of moving one of the existing metal picnic benches to the top field was discussed. This could then be complimented with a wooden bench from BTCV (£309 + VAT). The group agreed moving the metal one was a good idea.</p> <p>The group discussed potential problems for disabled access to the meadow area. It was agreed if this became a problem then matting could be used.</p> <p>There was a discussion about using the hard standing area that will be left when the picnic bench is moved to provide a safe 'BBQ area'. The group thought it would be a good idea as last year parts of the grass were burnt from BBQs. The group were not sure if this is something that could be supported by WFDC.</p> <p><b>ACTION: FO will discuss the idea with Linda Collis</b></p> </li> </ul>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Meadow Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Kissing Gate</b>  Due to be installed W/C 6<sup>th</sup> Feb (weather dependant). AB informed the group the entrance area will be slabbed. The group discussed publicity and a small opening event once completed. IT was agreed that representatives from WFDC, DAWF &amp; FoSG would be invited. This will be followed up with a press release.</p> <p><b>ACTION: JB to organise once completed</b></p> </li> <li> <p><b>Wildflower Meadow</b>  Following the site meeting AB was able to inform the group that the area proposed for the meadow is 1100m<sup>2</sup>, which will require 4kg of seed.</p> <p>CO researched local seed providers and discovered 'Habitat Aid' who supply locally sourced wildflower seeds at a very reasonable rate and part of the money goes to charity. The local seed mix (Worcestershire, Herefordshire &amp; Shropshire mix) would cost £275. All agreed this was an excellent idea and thank CO for finding it.</p> <p>The group discussed methods for preparing the site. It was agreed the easiest method was to spray with Roundup and then turn the soil with a machine. There is a potential to share the machine with other sites during that week. A provisional date for this is W/C 19<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>It was agreed that whilst the work is taking place it would be important to keep the community informed.</p> </li> </ul>

	<p><b><u>POST MEETING UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Following concerns from Rob Brown, and other members of the group, there was an email discussion concerning the use of Roundup. Members of the group still felt uneasy with using this and felt strongly the group should explore alternatives. AB suggested that the area could be turned without using a herbicide however the initial appearance might not be as good. The group agreed this would be the best approach. Rob thanked WFDC for the positive response.</p>
5	<p><b>Event - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group agreed to call the event - 'St. George's Weekend in the Park'</li> <li>• Ideas for activities/attractions/events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rag rug making</li> <li>○ Bouncy Castle - 1 for older &amp; 1 for younger children</li> <li>○ Face painting</li> <li>○ Performance area - street dance/singers/bands/poetry/school bands - need PA?</li> <li>○ Table top sale - charities</li> <li>○ Corn dolly display</li> <li>○ Owl display</li> <li>○ Stump carving - Bishops Wood</li> <li>○ Food - Scouts/Ice Cream Man/Mosh - snacks/Burger van?</li> <li>○ Transition Towns group</li> <li>○ Kidderminster ukulele club</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: JB to make contact and find out availability/book</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publicity - The group agreed to purchase a banner for display along the ring road - 'Event here this Saturday'</li> </ul> <p>A poster will be produced by Vestia</p>
6	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pub Quiz</b> - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 8pm at the Bluebell</li> <li>• <b>Mayors Parlour Visit</b> - Dates distributed the preferred day/time is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm. <b>ACTION: JB to email to confirm</b></li> <li>• <b>Newsletter</b> - 1 left to produce. Will aim for 1<sup>st</sup> April delivery. <b>ACTION: JB to coordinate</b></li> <li>• <b>Bird Boxes</b> - Nick Parker (Vestia) has made 12 bird boxes for the local Friends of Groups. It was decided these could be given to Cookie to use in any parks/green spaces in the area.</li> </ul>

- **Big Local Meeting** - JB reminded the group there is a meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb at St. Marys School. The group agreed that it is important for the FoSG to stay actively involved with this project. SB, CO & FO are attending on behalf of the group.
- **Carol Concert 2012** - the group agreed to hold this on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Timings to be confirmed nearer the date.  
**ACTION: JB to book park**
- **Big Lunch 2012** - this will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012. The group agreed it will hold some type of picnic event.  
**ACTION: JB to book park**
- **District Councillor Divisional Funding** - FO informed the group there might be a possibility of District Councillors receiving funding from April 2012 for projects within their areas. FO will keep group informed.
- **Jubilee Tree Planting** - SB informed the group that to celebrate the 1937 Coronation an Indian Bean Tree was planted in St. George's Park. SB proposed that to celebrate the Jubilee this planting is replicated. FO agreed to contact the Civic Society to see if there are any relatives of the original planters available.  
**ACTION: AB will obtain quote for tree**
- **Bid Draw** - CO suggested that the group could be involved with this project which encourages community based arts. Ideas suggested were leaf and bark rubbings in the park.  
**ACTION: JB to register group on website**  
**ACTION: JB to speak with Loz Samuels from WFDC**
- **BMX Track** - CO passed on some feedback from Mylo, local BMX rider, concerning the track. He has some ideas on changes that he would like AB to look at. The group also discussed holding a bike safety event that could re-launch the track if changes are made.  
**ACTION: CO to pass ideas/concerns from Mylo by email to AB**
- **Youth Hut** - SB made the suggestion that seating could be provided in the hut. Ideally metal and perhaps the 'leaning' style seats. It was thought this could limit the amount of people using the hut as a toilet.  
**ACTION: Obtain quotes for seating**
- **St. George's Church** - ST informed the group that the Church is exploring the possibility of removing the pews and widening out the community use of the building. She asked the group for ideas on how the building could be used. The group came up with many ideas including:
  - Art exhibitions
  - Theatre
  - Concerts (all types of music)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sports activities</li><li>○ Youth Clubs</li><li>○ History exhibitions</li></ul>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Future meeting dates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The next meeting will be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 7-8pm.</b> This meeting will be held at <b>Radford Avenue Childrens Centre</b> so that the Police and Neighbourhood Wardens are able to attend.</li></ul>