

# Friends of St George's Park

## 4<sup>th</sup> May 2012



Held at the Rainbow Childrens Centre

### Present

Spike Betterton - (SB) (Chair)  
 Gehardt Kruckow - (GK)  
 Roger Mayo - (RM)  
 Sue Tew - (ST)  
 Carol O'Brien - (CO)  
 Rob Brown - (RB)  
 Justin Bryant - (JB) (Secretary)  
 Howard Martin - (HM)

### Apologies

Monika Boehmer  
 Nicky Griffiths  
 Mumshad Ahmed  
 John Stevenson - (JS)  
 Fran Oborski - (FO) (Treasurer)  
 Alan Breen (AB) - WFDC  
 PCSO Rachel Harrision - (RH)

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>St. Georges Weekend in the Park - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Summary                     <table border="1" data-bbox="459 1406 1321 1865"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">21.04.2012</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Actual</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wood Carving - Matt Hawes</td> <td>£150.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bouncy Castles x 2</td> <td>£220.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Svartland Living History Society</td> <td>£200.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Face Painting</td> <td>£200.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refreshments for contributors</td> <td>£62.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Banner for ring road</td> <td>£56.25</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>£888.25</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </li> </ul>	21.04.2012			Item	Actual		Wood Carving - Matt Hawes	£150.00		Bouncy Castles x 2	£220.00		Svartland Living History Society	£200.00		Face Painting	£200.00		Refreshments for contributors	£62.00		Banner for ring road	£56.25						<b>£888.25</b>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group received a donation of £40.00 from Tony (Ice Cream Man) and took £22.00 from the plant stall.</li> <li>The group agreed that this years event was a major success with many positive comments being received from the local community and posted on the Facebook page. All agreed that the music worked well however it might be worth putting on a music only event later in the year. The group also agreed that when holding future large events like this we need to book portaloo's for the park.</li> <li>SB thanked all who helped out on the day.</li> <li>The group agreed to send thank you letters to St. George's Church and Jim &amp; Paul (music). <b>ACTION: JB send letters on behalf of the group</b></li> </ul>																
2	<p><b>Finance Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Account Summary: <b>Balance at last meeting - £2138.92</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Friends of St. George's Park - Nationwide Treasurers Trust Account</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="518 1106 1251 1424" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #cccccc;"><b>Account Balance</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,138.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #cccccc;"><b>Project Balances</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>General</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£827.19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Events</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£109.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meadow</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£17.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benches</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,185.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: right;">£2,138.92</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jubilee Fund bid has been submitted to WFDC with £300 being awarded. Awaiting cheque.</li> <li>The group agreed to approach Fairways TCC again to support the various projects going on in the park including the Jubilee party and the nature/history trail. <b>ACTION: JB write letter to TCC</b></li> </ul>	<b>Account Balance</b>			£2,138.92	<b>Project Balances</b>		General	£827.19	Events	£109.73	Meadow	£17.00	Benches	£1,185.00	£2,138.92	
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4	<p><b>Meadow Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The wildflower meadow has started to grow and once established it should control the grass.</li> </ul>																

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group discussed if there is a potential problem with dogs damaging the meadow area? To try and head off any problems the group agreed to put up some 'positive' signs asking people to respect the meadow area whilst it is growing. <b>ACTION: JB/SB to design and print some signs</b></li> <li>• The group agreed to pursue the idea of info/display boards for the nature/history trail. This could include a notice board for young people in the play area. ST would like to start a group to meet and discuss this idea in more depth. She will arrange a meeting over the coming months. <b>ACTION: ST to set up a meeting to discuss the nature/history trail project</b></li> <li>• Dog Fouling - There has recently been some coverage in the Shuttle saying there are going to be 'dog fouling campaigns' launched in the parks but the group are not aware of anything. The group would like to know what campaigns WFDC are planning to do. <b>ACTION: JB write letter to Chris Tudor asking for details of the campaigns</b></li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Parks Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CO &amp; RB gave feedback to the group from the recent meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discussed Terms of Reference (which will be simplified)</li> <li>○ The forum will be expanded to include other groups in the district</li> <li>○ 10 year plans were discussed.</li> <li>○ CO, RB &amp; JS will continue to attend and represent the group</li> </ul> </li> <li>• This led to a group discussion about the circular path currently in the St. George's 10 year plan. Many members of the group still do not feel that a circular path is need in the park, particularly now that an additional entrance has been added to the park which improves the natural walking routes within the park. The group agreed that all members will be asked on their views of the circular walkway and the results will be given to WFDC. <b>ACTION: JB to email whole group to get feedback.</b></li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Jubilee Event - 31<sup>st</sup> May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group are planning an event aimed at the local schools on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May - approx 3/400 young people.</li> <li>• There will be bouncy castles and inflatable games.</li> <li>• The paddling pool will be open.</li> <li>• The group agree that portaloos are needed for this</li> <li>• St. George's Church may be able to deliver some games/activities.</li> <li>• Volunteers are needed! CO &amp; HM volunteered <b>ACTION: ALL - More volunteers from the group are needed</b></li> </ul>

**AOB:**

- **Paddling Pool** - SB updated the group on recent discussions with WFDC concerning ways the group can support WFDC to keep the paddling pool open for longer this year. WFDC have offered the group the opportunity to take responsibility for the running and management of the paddling pool so the group can keep it open longer. The group discussed this idea in depth. In order to fully consider this proposal the group agreed to find out the following information:

- Guidelines/rules for storage of chemicals
- Quotes/Options for building a secure storage area within the park
- Quotes/details of insurance that would cover volunteers to monitor/work with chemicals
- Quote/details of increased public liability insurance cover

**ACTION: JB to get information**

Once we have this information we can then move on to discuss, if appropriate, if we feel as a group we could undertake this responsibility and if we would be able to get enough volunteers to manage a paddling pool.

CO stated that some actions of the group currently save WFDC money and combining this with the possibility of taking on additional responsibilities, within the general level of responsibility of the group, this may be a way of offsetting the increased cost of keeping the paddling pool open for longer.

**ACTION: SB to discuss this with WFDC at next meeting**

- **Big Lunch** - the group agreed that we will not put a picnic on this year, rather we will support other events going on in Baxter Gardens and Springfield Park
- **Not the Olympics Skittle Evening** - SG Church are planning a skittles evening, possibly 20<sup>th</sup> October (TBC). The group agreed to support the event.
- **Mission Statement** - ST suggest that the group adopts a 'mission statement'. This phrase could summarise what the group is trying to achieve and could be used for publicity purposes and will easily describe the group.  
ACTION: ALL email suggestions for mission statement to JB who will collate

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Agreements with WFDC</b> - Following the discussion at the last meeting concerning the herbicide spraying that had taken place in the park the group agreed to collate a list of the 'agreements' that have been made with WFDC. This will be completed in consultation with WFDC so that both parties are clear on what has been agreed. It was suggested that a map is also drawn up showing the different areas within the park. <b>ACTION:SB &amp; JB to collate list for discussion at the next meeting</b></li> <li>• <b>Open afternoon for WFDC staff</b> - Once the agreement list had been drawn up it was suggested that the group could hold an 'open afternoon' for WFDC Parks staff. This would be a good way of promoting the projects going on in the park and will help improve relationships between WFDC staff and the group. The group could provide refreshments. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Love Parks Week - 21<sup>st</sup> -- 29<sup>th</sup> July</b> - the group will discuss this at the June Meeting</li> <li>• <b>Cookie Award</b> - Cookie showed the group an award he has been given for his conservation work with the Grow With Wyre. The group congratulated him.</li> <li>• <b>Police Updates</b> - ST asked if the local Police would be able to provide an update at the meetings on current ASB/Crime levels in and around the park. This will be discussed with them at the next meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Police Coffee Mornings</b> - There has been no further conversations with the Police about their idea of a coffee morning in the Park. This will be discussed at the next meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Kidderminster Library, Campaign to save the gallery space</b> - RB &amp; CO updated the group on a campaign to save the gallery space in the Library. The group agreed that the protection of public spaces is something that is important to the group therefore the group will officially support the campaign. RB &amp; CO agreed to be official representatives of FoSG within the campaign. <b>ACTION: RB write short article for FoSG website</b></li> <li>• <b>Date of next meeting</b> - Due to bank holidays the group agreed to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday (8<sup>th</sup>) in June.</li> </ul>
7	<p><b>Future meeting dates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The next meeting will be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> (This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday due to bank holiday). It will be held at the Rainbow Childrens Hall, Radford Avenue, DY10 2ES</li> </ul>