

Friends of Beechwood Park meeting.

7th August 2018.

St Andrews Church Meeting Room.

Present; T King Ward Coordinator OMI, Cllr L Lambert, S Parker & A Buckle Shibden & District Bridleways, A Robinson, J Tillotson, C Quinn, J and O Thomas, J Guy.

Apologies; Cllr B Collins, Peter Oddy CMBC, Cllr D Sutherland, H Tillotson.

Notes

1. TK introduced himself and asked those present to introduce themselves.
2. **Last Notes;** Matters arising;
 - 2.1 JT said that there were a lot of compliments made about the new steps, benches and rubbish bins in the park.
 - 2.2 Residents were also complimentary on how the park looked and how clean it was.
 - 2.3 Over 400 saplings have been planted in the park and there is another 400 on order.
3. **Park issues/residents feedback.**
 - 3.1 JT said that she and 3 other group members had a positive meeting with Robin Welch from the trinity academy about issues in the park involving his students. Mr Welch did say that he cannot guarantee the behaviour of children when away from school, however teachers are present in the park during break times and when students are on their way to and from school. He did say that any school property that students have thrown in the ponds can they be collected and returned as the school can then deal with that student accordingly. He did say that any future clean ups in the park the school may get involved with, he was also interested in his students taking part in a gardening project in the park.
 - 3.2 Residents did say that the following were issues that needed seeing to.
 - 3.3 Both the top and bottom ponds were in need of some attention, the top pond needed rubbish removing and the reeds could do with removing from the bottom pond.
 - 3.4 The bridge from the footpath to the ponds has been damaged.

- 3.5 Still get some youths congregating in the wooded area starting fires and drinking alcohol, residents believe youths being sold alcohol from Beechwood stores.
- 3.6 Pile of stones/aggregate to bottom side of park residents want to know whats happening with it.
- 3.7 Heathy Lane car park, vehicles still parking up late at night, rubbish thrown from vehicles causing a mess.
- 3.8 Resident reports that there needs to be some cutting back of branches as some are looking dangerous and about to fall off.
- 3.9 Can the existing notice board be re-sited from its present position to the entrance off Heathy lane.
- 3.10 Can the grass be cut between the middle and upper footpaths as was done last year.
- 3.11 The above issues will be forwarded to the police, Peter Oddy and the community warden for the area.

4. Horse Problems.

- 4.1 Residents complained about the issue of 2 horses being ridden in the park, not sticking to the bridleway, galloping across all areas of the park, being a possible danger to other park users.
- 4.2 When approached by a group member about the damage to the bridge, the horse riders said it was them who had caused the damage adding this is a free park and then rode off.
- 4.3 The horses were large in stature and all brown in colour, the riders were both female approx. 20 – 30m years old. Members of the group were asked if they can get a photo of the horses and riders it can be passed onto SP and AB from the Shibden and district Bridleways, who may be able to help in identifying them.

5. Future of the Group..

- 5.1 TK explained that there was a need for more group members and that the roles of Chair and Secretary needed to be filled by residents, as at the moment TK and Cllr LL are carrying out these roles on a temporary basis.
- 5.2 If these roles cannot be filled then there is a possibility the group may fold, which would be a pity as the work done by the group has greatly benefitted the park, the community and the councils safer, cleaner greener team. It was agreed to give the group a promotional push over the next 3 months and for existing members to encourage residents to become members of the group.

6. Funding.

- 6.1 JT said she was applying to the National lottery for a substantial amount for projects in the park.

6.2 TK said that funds were required to pay for venue hire of St Andrews re meetings and suggested applying to the ward forum grants.

7. Next meeting.

7.1 6.30pm Tuesday 6th November 2018 at St Andrew's Church meeting room, Beechwood Road, Holmfield. Halifax.