

## Lordship Rec. Users Forum General Meeting Minutes Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

**Present:** Dave Morris (LRUF) David Singhe + Cesar Lobobo (BWF Residents Association), Karen Fermor (Wild Cats Arts Collective), Gary Witham ( Lordship Rec Wildlife Group), Mel Horley (Secretary of Friends of Downhills Park, and LRUF), Luisa Baker +Paul Ely (Haringey Council), Joan (Friends of Lordship Rec. and Back 2 Earth), Helen Steele (Friends of Lordship Rec), Rebecca Ahmed (Back 2 Earth, and minute taker).Apologies: Brian and Irene (Friends of Graham Lee), Martin Burrows (Back 2 Earth), Paul Ely (Haringey Council), Augustine Yeboah (Broadwater Farm Community Centre).  
Minutes of last meeting accepted as accurate-used as agenda for this meeting.

### 2. UPDATES FROM USER GROUPS

**Wild Cats Art Collective:** Group do show in Southbank every year (4<sup>th</sup> August-4<sup>th</sup> September), and will bring a family group to Lordship rec. on 1st September 2011. It will be free to the public. Small events notice has been done, council notice is underway. The family theatre performance will consist of 2 drama workshops, a consultation about the shell theatre (Shell won't be finished- so will do it alongside). The benefits will be that they can involve the public in future events. Leaflet is being made-suggestions for info on leaflet-Luisa put together text for upcoming events etc. They will be targeting schools and children's centre, and the Friends of Lordship Rec (now called FLR) want to write consultation document. It will be an all inclusive event for children, young adults and adults, but how to reach them all? There will be a basic consultation on the day, and Dave, Luisa and Mel to work together to draw up consultation. Leaflets will also be given to Residents Association for distribution. The site meeting has been arranged, Luisa to find out if they can borrow chairs from Broadwater Farm Community Centre (now called BWFCC). Weather issues-Luisa to find out if booking BWFCC is possible in event of rain. Workshops to run from 11-1pm, Lordship rec. Users Forum (now called LRUF) to have stalls, Potential for Back 2 Earth (now called B2E) to provide refreshments. There will also be an outdoor film screening on September 24<sup>th</sup> (Sporticulture) but no info at the moment.

**Residents Association (David Singhe):** Newly elected people within the group-want to keep as many people involved and as many links as possible. Express concern about current situation and so have written to Lorna Reed. They express concern about the closure of several local services- children's centre, old peoples homes and are worried what will happen if these close or go private-approx. 900 people in local area will be affected. State we need to fight for our local centres.

**Back 2 Earth:** Things are going well-making progress in the Harmony Gardens, everything on track. Have low numbers of volunteers, but expect this with the hard labour involved, setting up time is always hard- but we will have lots of people involved when its veggie growing!

**Friends of Downhills:** Meet and Greet to celebrate "Love Parks Week" 23-30<sup>th</sup> July- 1pm at Downhills Cafe. Wildlife-Butterfly Count is on this week-Count as many as you can! Art in the Park Event organised by Joan was a great success over 100 people came, so well done!

**LRUF:** want to ensure resources properly used in park; concerned about the withdrawal of staff in Lordship Rec.- want the staffing that was promised to be there to be there. Everything else is continuing.

**Wildlife Group:** want to put in a pond to increase the natural existing pond to approx. 3x3m in the spinney-need to work out a proposal to present to Luisa, to fit in with building works etc. The group is meeting every month and it is going well-focusing on improving habitats in the park and therefore biodiversity.

### 3. FUTURE OF BWFCC:

- B2E doing mural project on concrete wall- £1000 to do murals there, not shell.
- Background- future unsure council want to include it in externalisation of management. Lots of discussions and meetings already.
- Cesar-user groups at meeting expressed concerns and interest. But recent plans don't include interests. Need to go back to council to make them aware of the concerns have written a letter to send to John Morris. Issues are: people are not in favour of losing the crèche to a gym; design of the reception area-turnstiles/freedom; the appropriateness of linking a leisure centre to a community centre; want centre to be removed from package; want to put works on hold until these points actually discussed. After looking at plans with others; problems about tender-drafts want to be seen, allocated times; works now planned to start in gym 25<sup>th</sup> August; redesign of reception October; kitchen end of Nov/Dec; Residents want everything to stop until its properly established what is actually happening and what the plans are etc.; Chris Hutton sending out letter about these issues.

### 4. WORKS UPDATE

**Luisa:** regeneration- things going well-now 4 months into project.

- Info shop and shell theatre are behind schedule because of structural problems-dam, needs to be aired for 1 month. Shell is 4-5 weeks behind. Info block to be finished in the next few weeks.

- River work going well- problems during heavy rain, so diverted flow into ditch so operatives can work safely. Inlet and outlet structures going well. 50-60% of river cut so far. Some landscaping still to do,
- Bikertrack due to start 15<sup>th</sup> August, an off road expert to come in and do it.
- Sports field stripped and drainage in, old equipment buried which slowed workers down. Once the top soil is on, it needs to be sowed and left for 12 months.
- Environment centre works have started; drainage, timber piles (old telegraph poles), straw bale to start mid August, due to be finished end of September, but with the weather it is dubious.
- Security-escalated vandalism. Vinci employed security guard and dog 4.30pm-6.45am. A meeting is to be held regarding long term security issues.
- Maintenance-there is now a mobile team system-no on-site staff. Concerned about maintenance in parks in regards to Heritage Lottery Fund (now called HLF)- have to firm up position of funding in parks. Still building a depot for parks staff. Finance wise, HLF won't release money for park until Haringey secure position on maintenance.
- Next steps: Interpretation strategy for signs, Straw Bale starting next month, other volunteer packages being explored.

**Dave:**

- Adventure playground-Vinci finished, but set on fire, repairs being done by Wood Works of Selby Centre, so it can be opened again.
- On-going maintenance in park- not all works done by Vinci, other works need to be done-so if anyone sees any other issues such as cracks, let us know.
- Proposal for sculpture of bike from 1940's agreed in principal but negotiations on cost and position. Joan proposed applying for more funding-to be discussed later.

**5. FESTIVAL (Dave)**

- Dave has spoke to BWFC manager-we are okay to go ahead with Sporticulture 24<sup>th</sup> September from 1-5pm.
- Spoke to Andrea Keeble-hall to be used for sports
- B2E to do horticulture and food.
- Highways department booked bike for someplace?
- Not much space but maybe book some animals?
- Start putting out basic info
- Residents Association and LRUF to have stalls
- Any other business regarding festival-direct to Dave.

**6. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> September- Wild Cats Arts Collective
- 24<sup>th</sup> September- Sporticulture

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Park Staffing-Dave proposes that LRUF request that staff move back into park-formal agreement made to formally lobby that we want staff dedicated to this park for this year.
- Paul Ely (arrived near the end. Issues raised with him follow): staff based temporarily in Downhills Park, but under discussion of how to maintain and interact with project-having meeting on Tuesday so can't comment too much. Puts the point forward that it is a building site so wouldn't need as much maintenance, but argued against in the fact that park is more than 70% open.
- BWFC-residents association will be writing to Paul- Chris Hutton dedicated as correspondent for BWFC. Residents association explained their concerns (documented under "2. UPDATES OF USER GROUPS"). Paul will e-mail relevant sections of tender to Residents Association, B2E and LRUF before submitted. Potentially could be amended-Paul to check. Pre Qualification Questionnaire done (PQQ) done? 300+ expressed an interest of which 7 followed through putting in proposals to run the centres (externalisation of BWFC) and of them 4 have gone through process.
- Issue raised as to whether Tottenham and Wood Green Cemeteries would be in the parks maintenance- Paul to Check.

**Next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> August 2011.**

