



**Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th December 2007, 7.30pm
held at The Ackroyd Community Centre, SE23**

Present:- BHFUG members:

Alan Bailey (Chair)
Juliette Flower
Gavin Bolam

Kylie Barnes (Secretary)
Molly Bertrand

Mark Wellband
Lara Al-Jabi (Glendale)

Marcel Jenkins
Elizabeth Downie

Apologies:-

Sydney Couldridge
Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)

Albert Blackmore
Josh Smaller

Caroline Sefton

1. Welcome and Apologies

Alan Bailey opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last meeting and Matters Arising

Since the last meeting a sub-committee has been set up comprising of Alan Bailey and Kylie Barnes to look at possible funding avenues. Juliette Flower has volunteered to be on the sub-committee, as she has previous experience in fund raising which will benefit the group.

Web site – it was felt that the discussion boards were not used very regularly and that the two men from Glendales who helped put the bird boxes in the trees should get a mention on the web site.

No response had yet been received from Councillor Wise. Liz Downie delivered the previous Feasibility Studies to her.

The Drop kerbs in Brockley View and Codrington Hill still remain an issue and wish to know why they have been installed.

The Archaeologist was to attend to tonight's meeting but did not make it due to work commitments. It was felt that he should be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss the issue of an archaeological dig within the fields.

3. Committee Resignations and Appointments and New Members

None were reported.

4. Potential Funding – Date of Proposed Fun Day

Kylie Barnes had found a possible funding source via Lewisham Council which was first discussed with Alan Bailey on how to progress this application. It was brought to everyone's attention at the meeting but Elizabeth Downie suggested that we don't hold a fun day in 2008 but hold one every two years. Some felt that as such a lot of work had gone into organising the last one, momentum would be lost if one were not held next year as people who attended the group meeting on 6th September 2007 have already expressed a strong interest in one being held next year.

Some felt that the effort required in organising a Fun Day will detract from the other aims of the group ie. trees and playground facilities. There were also some who were concerned about having a larger event but still wanted an event in 2008.

The fun day needs careful consideration. GB has already said that he would take responsibility for organising some of the fun day as has Kylie Barnes in organising stalls, both having had first hand experience in running this years' Fun Day and are now fully equipped and ready to take on this huge task.

Alan Bailey as Chair, would therefore have the time available to continue running the other aspects of the User Group whilst a Fun Day was being organised. Kylie and Alan will complete the application form to the Lewisham Arts Fund as it has to be in by the December 21st. We will return to the topic in February.

5. **Hall Hire for Further Meetings**

Affiliation has not been arranged yet but it was thought that in order for the group to affiliate the cost would be £20 or £25 per annum with reduced fees for holding meetings at the Ackroyd. KB mentioned that Glendale's currently give us £20 per annum to cover some of the meeting hire costs and KB was to investigate the next annual costs.

6. **Bulb Planting on 10th November 2007**

With thanks to Lara from Glendale's for providing 1,000 snowdrops, 1,000 bluebells, 1,000 daffodils. Approximately 30 people turned up on the day to plant the bulbs including children!

7. **Hedge Planting Dates**

The first date will be 9th February 2008 commencing at 10.30am. The members were not sure where to continue planting and it was decided to continue around the fields, along the perimeter by the allotments. Another date will be confirmed by Lara. Another date has since been added and it will be held on the 23rd February commencing at 10.30am.

8. **Dates of the Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be held on the 7th February 2007 at 7.30 at the Ackroyd Community Centre, Ackroyd Road, SE23. Meetings following this date will be held on 3rd April, 5 June, 2 October and 4 December with a possible meeting on 8 May should a Fun Day go ahead.

9. **Any Other Business**

a) Brockley View/Austin Close

No further plans had been submitted to Lewisham Council. It was suggested to write to Sylvia Scott to register our disapproval of the plans for 6 flats to be built.

b) Catford Development

We should as a User Group log an interest over the proposed development in Catford where the dog track used to be. Approx 590 homes will be built but there is the issue of increased traffic within the area and how this will affect Catford and the surrounding areas.

c) Logo Re-branding

It was agreed that we should still use the oak leaf and design a new logo around it, but incorporate ourselves as Friends of Blythe Hill Fields trading as Blythe Hill Fields User Group.

MISSION STATEMENT

Blythe Hill Fields User Group (BHFUG) exists to represent everyone living around or using Blythe Hill Fields. Our purpose is to achieve sustainable improvements and facilities in this vital resource for the benefit of the whole community. We aim to promote the increased use and enjoyment of this essential open space.