

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2009, 7.30pm
held in Blythe Hill Fields, SE23**



Present:- Friends of Blythe Hill Fields members:

Alan Bailey (Chair)	Kylie Barnes (Secretary)	Gavin Bolam	Sydney Couldridge
Molly Bertrand	Marcel Jenkins	Elizabeth Downie	Harriet Jenkins
Lara Al-Jabi (Glendale)	Liz James	Judith Brassington	Carl Hindle (Police)
Tim Hall	Josh Smaller	Suzanne Simmons - Groundworks	

Apologies:-

Andrew Barnes (Treasurer)	Cllr Sylvia Scott	Anne Scott	Nicholas Taylor
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1. Welcome and Apologies

Alan Bailey opened the meeting in Blythe Hill Fields.

2. Minutes of the Last meeting and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last minutes.

3. Update on Playbuilder bid for improvements to the Children's playground

Suzanne from Groundwork handed out some design for the new playground. From the feedback received at the Festival, it was suggested by people attending that there should be a natural approach to play within the new playground. 81 responded with completed questionnaires. There were plenty of ideas, some being ecological, trees and grassy areas, ropes, swings, climbing, the new equipment to be accessible for all abilities, water, plants (bamboos), somewhere to shelter, but the new playground should discourage anti-social behaviour and to enhance security for the parents whilst with their children.

A copy of the new design will be available on the web site. A topographical survey of the fields will be carried out in August.

4. Update on plans for Tree re-stocking and Wildflower Meadow

Our proposal for funding for the tree re-stocking and the wildflower meadow has been approved and we have been granted £17,025. Many thanks to the Crofton Park Local Assembly for their support.

5. Festival Update - Saturday 27th June 2009

It was felt the Festival was a really big success again. Lots of families were spotted having picnics in the fields while the live music was playing and people shopped on the stalls. We had a larger spread of stalls this year. The event was more open than last year with much more going on.

KB took the Sir Steve round to visit stall holders and he opened the event again for us this year.

Some feedback from stall holders – there needs to be a little more room in between the stalls. We need to continue to review the kind of stalls we have, ie. the ethos of the stalls. There were comments about some stalls “spreading out a bit”. The donkeys need more helpers throughout the course of the day. The police horses made an appearance on the day. The children really liked them.

Plug plants were on sale at £1 each for the new flower meadow that we are creating. £105 was donated to this project.

6. Any Other Business

None to report.

7. Dates of Meetings for 2009

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday the 8th of October 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Ackroyd Community Centre

Thereafter: Thursday 3rd December 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

Friends of Blythe Hill Fields (FBHF) 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.