



# MINUTES

8 pm on 20 November 2017 at the Blythe Hill Tavern

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## In Attendance

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David Lowry, Ellie Rogers, Jim Smith, Suzanne McDougall, Fiona Salmon, Kate Stroud, Shahanara Begum, Nicholas Taylor and Graeme Crow

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## Welcome

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DL welcomed everybody to the meeting.

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## Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

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Prior to the meeting, the minutes the last meeting were circulated and agreed.

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## Agenda

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### 1. Ideas for investing in the Fields

At the AGM, it was agreed that the Friends would like to spend the reserve on projects to improve the Fields. ER explained that to date, we had discussed the following projects: Street Art, creating a Community Garden and playground improvements projects which are not funded in full at present. It was agreed that we did not need to consider any additional projects. SM summarised that she and James Cross had been reviewing available fundraising options. FS noted that the playground fund would likely be very expensive, but that quotes were still being obtained.

There was a discussions about timeframes for completion of the projects, as some of the projects have strict conditions in this regard:

- Street Art - ER explained that it had previously been agree that we would try and get involved in the Brockley street art festival in Spring 2018. ER explained that there might be a crowdfunder and that cost depended on the final mural size and the level of engagement.

She explained that she had been told before that the cost would be sub £1,000. ER and RO will research further.

- ER and RO
- Community Garden - SB and ER will go to the Manor House gardens and get ideas from them, views on cost, etc. Aiming to have the project started by Spring. Glendale have said we would need to speak with their people and wildlife person for advice. Need to get risk assessments done and signed off.
- SH and ER
- Playground - Kate and Fiona will have 3 more quotes by the end of next week. Glendale and the Council have suggested getting an accessible swing. Last renovation of the playground was 2010/2011 using government money. Will also get quotes for ping pong table. FS and KS will report back.
- FS and KS

## 2. Event on 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Having researched the bee house idea further (as proposed at the AGM), ER suggested making bird feeders and Christmas Wreaths as a free workshop – All agreed a great idea and funding will come from the reserve (approx. £50) We hope to receive donations towards the cost on the day. Mince Pies and Christmas tunes will be playing. 2pm meet. IT was agreed that we will not have carols, but music, we have badge making, offer a prize for the best wreath and feeder, request a festive bring and share. An online flyer will be made by Graeme. Please share and talk about it on social media. Friends of Blythe Hill bags will be sold. Location will be at the picnic tables by the playground. Will ask people to book a place and request a donation for the playground fund in return.

- GC, all

## 3. Selling Blythe Hill Bags/merchandise

We have lots of the old style bags. Suggestion for them to be sold at the Christmas craft event at 60 Blythe Hill Lane on Saturday and Sunday. Suggested costing is £3 per bag. Will try to sell them through the facebook and Instagram accounts. DL to ask Madeleine to do a stock take ahead of the weekend.

## 4. AOB

- Meeting date: Suggest next meeting on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at Blythe Hill Tavern to discuss the Festival
- Lights on BHF - ER spoke to a gentleman who is campaigning for lights on Blythe Hill fields. Unfortunately he was not at the meeting. The idea and reason behind the suggestion were discussed. NT explained that the research shows that shadows caused by lights create more danger. JS was concerned about light pollution/the effect on the wildlife if not managed properly. There was a discussion about crime on the Fields. No one was aware of any issues. Those present concluded that we would not support lights being installed.
- Signage within the fields. It was noted that they are looking in a terrible state. Glendale have been approached. They will provide vinyl stickers but this is not a good solution according to GC as the surface would not be adequate. GC has surveyed the signs. The structure of the signs is fine and

therefore, a metal tray could be added for around £200 per sign. Garthorne Road Nature Reserve was mentioned as an example of cost effective detailed sign.

- GC
- Staggered entrances. ER explained that she had discussed this with the Council/Glendale and would ask for an update. In the meantime, Zoe Alexander had requested a review of the traffic provisions, so any work may be achieved via the Highways team at the Council.

FS/ER

22.11.17