



Friends of Firs Farm Park

General Meeting: 22nd January 2015 7.30pm

1. Parks / Police (Safer Neighbourhoods Police Unit)

Only relevant Firs Farm items were discussed .

Andy and Hannis attended from the Parks Police. There have been no crimes reported in Firs Farm Park since the last meeting.

Question from the floor (WHRA) about proposal for park gates to be left unlocked by Enfield Council. The Parks Police are not happy about it, as they believe it could lead to an increase in crime, particularly in properties backing onto parks. There was concern from the officers that the Parks Police might be absorbed into the general police units, and they suggested that representations should be made to James Downing at Enfield Council

2. Agree Previous Minutes 12th November 2014

Agreed

3. AGM - 23rd April

When our Constitution was set up we had agreed this would be time for our AGM as closest to the preferred year end. This is a chance to revisit what we have accomplished to date and an opportunity for more people to get on board as committee / sub- committee members. WE NEED EVERYONE WE CAN TO GET ON BOARD as there is **SO** much to do in our improvement plan which is still under review with Friends & Enfield Parks. (Will publish plan in May.)

Whilst many of our current committee are happy to stand again, this is an opportunity for new/ further nominations.

Nominations: - Please send your nominations for the following

Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, & Treasurer , Committee members:-

ALL nominations to be received by 20/04/15 - send by email to Hello@firsfarmn21.org

4. Vote for Firs Farm Wetlands

We invited everyone present to vote for Firs Farm as we need all votes we can get to get this project off the ground. It was suggested that there is too much to lose to “not” vote for this project.

A document with a list of Educational, Recreational and for HEALTH benefits was shared out at the meeting Highlighting benefits for ALL the communities (in particular communities from the local wards and Enfield: Winchmore Hill, Palmers Green, Bush Hill Park and Haselbury. Examples shown below and in the Who Will Benefits list attached:

- Schools - Opportunity for both curricular and extra-curricular activities
- Cyclists, Runners, joggers, walkers, Buggy & Wheel chair users .
- Wildlife enthusiasts
- Flood Relief work

Surface water, improved drainage from the surrounding area and properties that will benefit from the scheme. Users of the A10 will also benefit as it will be less likely to flood – water can flow down to Pymmes watercourse.

- Football

Dave Llyons, (representing the Sunday League footballers) was able to confirm that even with the current water channel, the two pitches closest to the Cemetery no longer flood and can be used by teams. This is an improvement on previous years when they would get water-logged, and be unplayable.

- Health

Get people walking, being more active.

This is a fantastic Opportunity for “Free” cash injection into the local green space. Lets improve our space and make this an even better place to be or to come and enjoy all it can offer

Campaign: What the Friends have and are doing to promote this (See attached) :

Will be designing Posters to display in Sainsburys, Dabora Conway, Sony, , Starbucks, Sprints, Hunters , Tesco,

And leaflets/flyers for hand delivery to businesses along Greens Lanes, Firs Lane, Station Road and the Green N21

Will promote using Social Media, Website and through community Partners: LBE Thames21 Sainsbury Schools local community and businesses

Discussed how people can vote Preferably here tonight but you can do this at home online using your Mobile /

internet logon www.london.gov.uk/biggreenpoll or offline here tonight or at one of our "Surgeries" by completing one of our forms which will be scanned in and sent to the Mayor's office via LBE.

The Data you will have to provide will be:- First & Last Name, Email, Borough, Which project has your vote, & a sentence as to why are you supporting this project.

The Friends have created a scan QR for mobile/tablet users

5. AOB.

Ian Russell (LBE) attended and gave an overview of what the additional money would be spent on in developing the wetlands area, including potentially linking in another underground water source from the Barrowell Green area to a spur. This may be able to pass through the Spinney, and was being looked into by the LBE tree officer. The LBE bid ticks all of the boxes when it comes to the application for the Big Green Fund, but one of the deciding factors in the award is public support.

Query whether other funding could be obtained if LBE were unsuccessful in getting the Big Green Fund cash (Roy)

Ian – there are further grants available, but this is the biggest single pot, which is why they are concentrating on that.

Question from the floor about history of the area as a farm?

TG – we have a few documents / old maps that had been shared with the group however there is much to do on this so any help would be appreciated.

JB(Parks) Suggested there was information at the local history unit in Enfield

JB(Parks) – reporting of fly-tipping etc via the LBE website please

Future Meeting dates for your 2015 diary:

Thursday 23rd Apr 15 AGM

Thursday 16th Jul 15

Thursday 15th Oct 15