

Friends of Murray Road Recreation Ground

**Notes of meeting** **held on 6th March 2012 – 7.00pm**

**At Murrayside Community Centre**

**Present: Sam Teague IBC, Scott Falteisek (Secretary), David Lynch, Sarah Jarrold (Chair) and Glen Thimblethorpe (Treasurer), Cllr Bill Quinton, Cllr George Debman, Patrick Kenlock and Debbie Owen IBC.**

**Apologies: John Le Grys (Mayor), Cllr Bill Knowles, Nick Wilcox IBC and PCSO Jacob Andrews.**

# Agenda

1. **Welcome**
2. **Minutes of last meeting**
3. **Updates**
4. **Priorities**
5. **AOB and date of next meeting**

**1. Welcome**

ST welcomed everyone.

**2**. **Minutes of last meeting**

Only two officers were at the last minute, at the time it was thought that the meeting could not be classed as official. After looking at the Constitution it was realised that it could be classed as an official meeting with one officer. A lot of the issues discussed at the previous meeting were discussed in more detail in this meeting. September meetings minutes were deemed acceptable.

**3. Updates**

**GT:** Still waiting to hear from Nick Jacobs regarding quote for business case. ST stated that the quote should be available within the next couple of days. It was agreed by everyone present that the BIFFA application should be reviewed before it is submitted. This may possibly happen at the next meeting. SF suggested charitable contributions as a possible option, however the group generally think there are too many regulations to consider this as an option.

**SJ:** Jubilee party may possibly be held in the park organised by the local community, school may be involved. GT will send email regarding use of park for the event. GD suggested contacting PTA through school.

**ST:** Election of new members took place, all the officers stood down. The result of the election was as follows:-

Chair: Sarah Jarrold

Treasurer: Glen Thimblethorpe

Secretary: Scott Falteisek

Vice Chair: Patrick Kenlock

**SJ:** Over the last six months the park has the park has had a few improvements, thanks to Nick Wilcox. For example some new trees, improvements to the appearance of toilet parks and a general tidy up. She also announced that the toilet blocks should be re-opened soon following the fitting of some new sinks. Signs have now been introduced stating "Is your conduct appropriate". She suggested that the toilet blocks need to have checks for damage/vandalism. If this becomes a serious problem, than closure of the block may need to be considered. In the future the parks toilet facilities may be incorporated in the new pavilion and the old block may be demolished. DL stated that sewage and electricity will be the biggest expense once the new pavilion is developed. Finally, the old changing room shed has now been demolished and a orchard will be planted in the Autumn.

**ST:** Has contacted Playgroup regarding new designs and equipment for the play area. Will look at other proposals from other playground architects such as HARGS and SMP regarding other possible designs, 3d plans etc. One of them may have an olympic based theme. With permission we are hoping to use some images from several companies for a press release regarding the designs for a new play area.

**SJ:** Opened a discussion regarding a new FA initiative regarding new size pitches for youth football (below the age of 10). It has been proposed that the park should introduce three of these new pitches which will be marked horizontally along the park. GD stated that there is a shortage of pitches for youth football now that full size pitches are not being used according to a football league meeting. Few parks in Ipswich fit the profile for these new pitches, Murray Park ticks all the boxes and potential grants could be involved. DL stated that there was no longer any demand for full pitches by any local Sunday League teams. GT asked whether there would be any demand for these youth pitches, GD replied that the demand was there. It was generally agreed that the park should put itself forward for hosting these new pitches. A press release could be used to raise the profile of the park. DL also stated that more pitches will mean more visitors to the park. Car parking issues were discussed and GD stated that parking may be available at the school on a Saturday and Sunday.

**4. Priorities**

**SJ:** The park should support a proposed new scheme which is fully committed to responsible dog ownership. Email South East Area Committee offering the park for further Dog Behavior and Awareness Days. Attend the meeting and raise issues regarding dog fouling, incorporate this with proposed new pitches "Poo and Sport Don't Mix". Also plan to raise the issue regarding street lighting around the park.

**ST:** Ask whether concrete block where the old changing rooms use to be could be demolished.

**SJ:** Raise the profile the park by raising awareness of the parks availability for holding events.

**SJ:** Attend the next Cultural and Leisure meeting regarding sport. Raise awareness that the park will be happy to host the new FA youth pitches and discuss issues regarding Tennis in the park.

**GT:** Contact Phil Sweet regarding 106 funding. New developments which may help our cause for 106 funding include a New Tesco's where the Old Railway Pub use to be located and the old co-op milk site being re-developed. GD suggested that we should attend the next public consultation, Planning committee decides funding.

**AOB**

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**4.** **Date of Next Meeting**

Every six weeks on a Tuesday, date to be confirmed

Meetings this year:

To be confirmed.

At Murrayside Community Centre 7pm, Nacton Road, all are welcome.