

Friends of Murray Road Recreation Ground

**Notes of meeting held on 19 May 2016 at 7pm at Murrayside Community Centre**

Present: David Lynch (Treasurer), Sue Bird (Vice-Chair), Debbie Owen IBC, Cllr Bill Knowles,

 Malcolm and Jenny Ebbs, Sam Teague IBC

Apologies: Nick Wilcox IBC, Cllr Phil Smart, Steve Kemp IBC, Cllr Bill Quinton, Glen Thimblethorpe (Chair), Scott Falteisek (Secretary)

**Agenda**

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

ST welcomed everyone.

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

These were deemed appropriate. ST informed the meeting that the latest desired funding bids, for new safety surface for the toddler area and replacement gates worked out at approaching £10K, which may be too much for Locality Funding and it may be more advisable to apply to Awards for All. A letter had been drafted and was being finalised, but bids had to come from the Friends. The new safety surface for the toddler area would hopefully be funded by the new facilities project – Murray tennis and multi-courts.

**3 Updates**

The Friends Opening Event for the new courts was discussed, Mrs Ransom, aged 102 was not available as a local champion – Friends had no thoughts on alternatives. GT will be talking to IBC Press Officer re Angle edition and Press Release. Mayor, Councillors, previous Friends (Chairs) and local Schools will be contacted and invited – ideally so that children or young people could use the courts at the same time. The opening event date restrictions to be checked with funders.

The new courts will hopefully be colour sprayed before the opening event.

A Radio Suffolk phone in included a gentleman who noted there were air-raid shelters at the north end of the park, with an entrance opposite number 36 Murray Road. This raises the possibility of a historical feature, as available at Clifford Road Primary School, if the entrances were just filled in. However its existence was unknown to other local elderly residents.

**4 Priorities**

ST to check with Park Patrol:

Closure of the new courts at the same time as the toilets each night.

Friends wondered whether the tennis net should be removed each night.

Cricket still being played with a hard ball 11am-1pm, they hit a house – even after Park Patrol visit, needs further visit or bar. ST advised the Friends to call the Police if it happens again.

Sign on new courts includes misleading ‘no shoes’ graphic – request sticker saying ‘no dogs’ over it.

Earth around new courts seems to smell strangely.

Contractors entrance to be closed off.

1. **AOB and date of next meetings**

The Co-op green counters were not applied for Murray Park – ME found, application tba by ME.

Parks to mow the long grass at the north end of Murray Park.

**Future Friends meetings:**

Thursday the 30th June 30/06/2016

Tuesday the 9th August 09/08/2016

Tuesday the 20th September 20/09/2016

Tuesday the 1st of November 01/11/2016

Tuesday the 13th December 13/12/2016

7pm, at Murrayside Community Centre, off Nacton Road, in the Foxhall Room.