



## **The Friends of Croydon Road Recreation Ground**

**Minutes:** AGM, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
**Venue:** Azelia Hall, Beckenham

### AGM Apologies:

Marsha Berg  
Brian Cooke  
Roy Dixon  
Roger Leech

### AGM Attendees:

Cllr Christine Harris  
Brenda Knight  
Des Knight  
Jean Mason  
Jackie Saunders  
James Hilsden  
Anne Dyson  
Terry Guntrip  
Chris Phillips  
Sarah Phillips  
Wendy Faulkner  
Lisa-Marie Faulkner-Brent  
Brian Blandford  
Teresa Murphy  
Amy Rogers (idverde)  
Penny Read (idverde)  
James Hilsdon (Bromley Council)  
Ray Sawyer  
Christine Sawyer  
David Ward  
Geoff Walker  
Anne Leehally  
David Cook  
Cliff Watkins  
David Well  
Roberta Welham

## **1.0 Minutes of the previous AGM**

1.1 It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the previous AGM, proposed by Terry Guntrip, seconded by Sarah Phillips.

1.2 Matters arising:  
Nil

## 2.0 Report from the officers

### 2.1 Chairman

The chairman thanked the elected officers and committee members and all those who had helped the Friends and others to publicise and help host events and share news about the park. The input of Bromley Council in assisting with officer time regarding the bandstand, and idverde for park management generally was much appreciated.

The main event, as is now seemingly an annual occurrence was the Oddity Festival on 17.08.19 which was a resounding success and included an extremely generous anonymous donation. Several other events had been held at or around the bandstand, despite its dilapidated condition, and on 21.12.19 at 3pm there will be carols with the Crystal Palace Progress Band.

The bandstand had been made a grade 2 listed building in August which should raise the standard of any conservation works.

On the downside the park WCs were on the point of not being useable, which would impede our ability to host events and generally be very inconvenient for park users. The Soul Town festival in September had resulted in a 92-signature petition signed by the residents and the Chairman, objecting to the mismanagement of the event. The Chairman fully supported the residents. The event took out a significant area of the park for 10 days, was excessively noisy with 2 stages, went on beyond the allotted time and was grossly out of scale for a small park surrounded by houses and gardens. The petition was sent to the Portfolio Holder at Bromley Council. We welcome musical events, and that is the function of the bandstand, but they must be properly managed and respectful towards the neighbouring residents.

It was to be hoped that a sports club could help manage the pavilion and set up more sports and football opportunities on the playing fields.

### 2.2 Treasurer

The treasurer presented the attached accounts for the year to 30.9.19. A vote to approve the accounts was proposed by Terry Guntrip and seconded by Wendy Faulkner and unanimously approved.

The treasurer explained that the bank accounts were split 3 ways into the main Friends account with 2 supplementary accounts for the bandstand and for the paddling pool projects.

Membership costs continue to be £5 per household per year.

#### **Note: bandstand conservation costs and procurement (report by idverde)**

idverde reported at the meeting that funds were now fully in place to match the estimated conservation works of £245K. Funding had come from a number of sources, including the following:

Concert monies

Other events and bucket /tin collections  
Individual donations  
Grant from the Heritage of London Trust (£20K)  
Grant from central government (£57K)  
Matched funding from Bromley (£80K)  
Memorial bricks

Cllr Harris requested full details of the above.

Idverde/Bromley Council will now go to the market to find a suitable conservation architect who should be in post by the end of February. Once in post we expect the consultant to revisit the condition of the bandstand and help draw up a specification for the works together with the committee. The works could commence in September.

Seeing as the HLF disappointingly rejected our grant application we are not obliged to provide a range of “community education events” which the HLF would have required and we can concentrate on priorities of park users.

The chairman said that it was important that idverde notify the brick customers of progress with the works.

### 2.3 **Membership secretary**

Post-meeting note:

Roy Dixon reported membership details as follows:

- Total number of members: 98
- Members who have renewed their subscriptions from 2015: 55
- New members since August 2019: 15

### 2.4 **Webmaster**

Terry has been keeping the website up to date with events and news and attending committee meetings.

### 2.5 **Events coordinator**

Brian reported that events are already being organised for next year (2020), including a community day at the end of May.

Chairs without arms had been requested by musicians.

Brian believes the Recreation Ground should aspire to being recognised by the green flag award scheme.

(post-meeting note: The Green Flag Award® scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world).

### 3.0 Election of officers

A request was made for any offers or nominations from the floor for any of the substantive posts on the committee. None were voiced, so voting proceeded thus:

Post	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded	Vote
Chair	Chris Phillips	Terry Guntrip	Brian Blandford	Unanimous
Acting Treasurer*	Sarah Phillips	Chris Phillips	Christine Sawyer	Unanimous
Secretary (membership)	Roy Dixon	Chris Phillips	Lisa-Marie Faulkner	Unanimous
Webmaster	Terry Guntrip	Sarah Phillips	Chris Phillips	Unanimous
Events coordinator	Dual: Wendy Faulkner & Brian Blandford	Sarah Phillips	Terry Guntrip	Unanimous
Committee member	Wendy Faulkner	Sarah Phillips	Chris Phillips	Unanimous
Committee member	Brian Blandford	Sarah Phillips	Chris Phillips	Unanimous
Committee member	Lisa Marie Faulkner-Brent	Chris Phillips	Sarah Phillips	Unanimous
Independent Examiner	David Charlesworth	Terry Guntrip	Brian Blandford	Unanimous

\*Note that as advised by idverde:

It would be good practice from a funder perspective, to have the key Committee roles (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and any other named roles) in the committee as unrelated. In the absence of another volunteer, it was agreed that in the circumstances the Treasurer post with Sarah Phillips would be an acting Treasurer role. The committee will look for a permanent replacement.

### 4.0 Any Other Business

#### 4.1 Souldown Festival

Idverde said this was the second year of running and there would be an idverde person from the events team monitoring the occasion.

Cllr Christine Harris said that in her view the Soul Town Festival should be for one day only and that it was being reviewed by the Bromley Council's Safety Advisory Group.

#### 4.2 Park Toilets

James Hilsdon said he was aware that the WCs were in a bad state and he was arranging for a requisition with AMEY to carry out a condition survey. Note: this has since been commissioned.

#### 4.3 Park furniture/pathway survey

Idverde reported that a condition survey would take place in February.

#### **5.0 Next committee meeting**

Next meeting committee meeting: 21.1.20 at the Elm Tree.