



Clissold Park User Group News

Notes of our March 3rd 2014 meeting

At the meeting:

Caroline Millar (Chair), John Hudson (Secretary/Vice Chair), Leanne Douglas (Borough Events Consultant) and 24 other Park Users.

Apologies were received from: Ken Worpole (President), Delilah Jeary, Liz Fewings and Bruce Irving (Park Manager).

The Annual General Meeting

Elections

The following Group Representatives were elected unanimously:

Chair: Caroline Millar

Secretary & Vice Chair: John Hudson

Treasurer: Anna Gualtieri

Minutes' Secretary: Delilah Jeary

The following agreed to continue as representatives of particular user groups:

Website: Isabelle Gore; Biodiversity: Liz Fewings;

Accessibility :Anthony Larvin; Dog owners: Mark Forsyth;

Fundraising: Yvonne Hill, Hilde Oorde, Older users: Sylvia Anderson; Children and Family & Music/events: Roderick Ryan and Cath Willgress; Runners & Joggers: Wendy Forrest CM to confirm that John Dye and Alex Watson if they are happy to continue as rep for skatepark users advisor on our charitable status. **ACTION CM**

The Chair presented her annual report which included:

By December 2 million visits to the park had been recorded, which meets the annual target and there will have been an estimated 3 million by the end of March. Clissold House activity has been high, which had generated funds to be spent in the park.

There were 310 followers of CPUG on Facebook, 342 on Twitter and 417 on our mailing list. The website had 21,000 hits over the year.

Action from the January meeting:

Woodland track: the recent heavy rains have left the paths still in a very bad state. Woodchip has been delivered and volunteer track users will be sought to help spread it. The maintenance plan for the paths is still being completed. CM will try to set up a meeting with the park manager and runners reps to review the management of these paths

.ACTION CM

Rubbish bin for QEW gate: Still not in place! There will be a programme of bin repair and replacement this spring.

Resurfacing work under the cantilever swing in the play area has been delayed but should be completed soon. Repair work to the paths around the House will start later this month.

Tree planting and the re-provision of anti-slip surfaces on the new footbridges had been delayed by the heavy rains.

Helpers are sought for the Butterfly Dome for an hour or so at a time during its short season. Please email Lucy.Gijsen@hackney.gov.uk to volunteer and find out more.

Opening the park earlier than the current 7.30am was requested as many people used it before leaving for work. This would be put to the Park Manager on his return from holiday. **ACTION CM**

Events Policy and Management

Leanne Douglas was working for Hackney for a year to completely review the Council's events policy and produce a 4/5 year strategy for each of its parks and open spaces. This included a detailed assessment of each park, including acoustic mapping and specifying what type and size of event was suitable there.

Clissold Park was the first and its acoustic map has been done and will be posted on the LBH website. It recorded ambient noise levels in and around the park and showed the noisiest spots outside to be the main roads, and inside the playground. The effect of prevailing winds and other natural features was considered and the area for any bigger events identified as that nearest to the SW corner of Green Lanes and SN Church Street – the fairground area. Nothing with a maximum capacity of more than 5000 people will be permitted– which allows for the circus and two fairgrounds already visiting annually, as well as the three cultural festivals (Anatolian, Daymer and Yoruba).

No event will run with amplified music for more than 4 days (but one of these events would also have an extra day's educational event without amplified sound this year).

Sound will be carefully monitored to minimise impact, not only by volume but also frequency, to eliminate bass

vibration, controlled by electronic limiters and by careful placement of speakers according to the acoustic map. All events will be attended by 2 or 3 Council officers to ensure compliance not only of sound levels but of specified waste disposal measures – in and around the events. All requirements would be specified in licencing applications, which will only be approved if all policy aspects were met for each particular site. The current licenced hours for events has gone up to 11pm and a reduction to mid-evening is under consideration.

Small scale, quiet events are being planned for the summer, including daytime children's and evening family cinema, theatre performances and a silent fireworks display. All are subject to a wildlife and animal impact survey.

There will be an online survey on this issue at the end of March followed by a full consultation on the new policy proposals. Complaints made over the years by local people about events in the park have been sent to her by CPUG and has been incorporated in the review. The effect of these changes on this summer's events will be assessed and would further revise licencing conditions for future years. The final Borough-wide recommendations will be submitted to Cabinet for approval and subsequently implemented as LBH policy.

The admin for granting licences will be regularised with consistent and relevant information given to local people (including CPUG) before approval. Inappropriate events will not simply be turned away, but alternative suitable and approved sites suggested.

Huge events like the last Stokefest will not be licenced, but Caroline noted that the Church Street traders were considering holding an event on the 22nd June and Clissold Park will be celebrating its 125th anniversary with a family day on the same weekend..

Leeanne was warmly thanked for coming and for the approach that she planned to take on this sensitive issue.

Caroline reported that a new donation of £350 had been made by Mr Anthony Perry who has said how much he and his late wife had enjoyed Clissold park.

The meeting was delighted to learn that Eleanor Potter (the park manager) has had a baby boy, Freddy and asked that its congratulations and best wishes be sent to her.

Future CPUG events

Our next meeting: Sunday 2nd March 2014, 11 to 12, Clissold House

Contacts

Park Keepers: 0208 3566834. This connects to a mobile.

Park Manager: Eleanor.Potter@hackney.gov.uk or call 020 8356 4215

Café (Company of Cooks):

clissoldhouse@companyofcooks.com

Café Manager: Aylin Sulo aylin.sulo@companyofcooks.com

Room booking and house tours (GLL): Emma Finch

clissoldhouse@gll.com or call 020 7249 2308

Council Officer for Parks: Colin.stuart@hackney.gov.uk

Lead Councillor for Parks:

jonathan.mcshane@hackney.gov.uk

Police: 0208 721 2923 / 07879 603106 /

Clissold.snt@met.police.uk

Seargent in charge: Sue Wright

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To join Clissold Park Users Group

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