



Clissold Park User Group News

Notes of our July 6th 2014 meeting

At the meeting:

Caroline Millar (Chair), John Hudson (Secretary/Vice Chair) Mark Forsyth (Dog owners), , Yvonne Hill (Fundraising), Anthony Larvin (Accessibility), Bruce Irving (Park Manager), and 15 other park users.

Apologies were received from: Hilde Oord

Matters arising from the May meeting:

Woodland track: Caroline, Wendy and Bruce met on Monday 12 May. They decided to find out what its different uses were and how many use it. Volunteers were sought to help do the counting. CM

Bin for QEW gate: A contractor was being commissioned to re-set the bin ACTION BI

Playground repair work to the swing surfacing is outstanding. The amount of work has increased due to the Thames Water works and compensation is being sought in advance of the works. The ground at the bottom of the slide will be maintained as level. A last bit of graffiti needs to be removed from the legs of the hut, BI and Yvonne to follow up. The lower bolt of one of the gates had been stolen (!) 'Please Close the Gate' signs are being put up. The sand still needs regular checking and cleaning (especially for sharp items)

The re-provision of anti-slip surfaces on the new footbridges is still being chased.

Annual Survey is being amended to ask about what facilities users want and will be distributed later in the summer

Café closing times are later in summer months but usually at 6.30. Should they be later to attract business?

Bench by tennis courts: There is already one by the mini-tennis. Another could be placed where the temporary Tennis Offices are when they are removed.

Litter collection has improved since early morning round introduced but the area around the wheel park is being missed.

Forthcoming events are listed in the Park Manager's report. Reports and concerns about them should be fed back to CPUG.

Picnic tables should be re-installed near the woodland track, but there are various issues to be considered first, including funding. ACTION CM

Community Notice Board issue to be pursued by JH

Park Manager's Report from Bruce Irving

Damage to the Wheel park bowls: Vandals have dumped large wheelie bins into the large bowl and set fire to them. Repairs to a 3sq metre area is being costed and a contractor selected.

The Pavilion toilets are open again but there are still huge queues on busy weekends and overall there is under-provision (as the User Group had predicted when the Park refurbishment plans were drawn up). Solutions to this problem are being considered.

Restoration of the commemorative water fountain is nearly complete and will be ready by the anniversary on Thursday the 24th July.

Provision of aerobic fitness equipment was discussed with some possibilities being described and different locations suggested. A consultation on this will take place in the autumn.

Nature Club activities, such as free nature walks, will be publicised with posters and flyers around the park. A children's club will be run from 10 to 3 daily the week of the 18th to 22nd August at a charge of £100.

Extending park opening hours to be included in the Survey and on the Development Board agenda. Animal welfare consultants, parents, cyclists, dog walkers to be consulted.

Feedback on events in the park to the park manager

The Anatolian Festival ran over the late May bank holiday. It was managed properly but the vocal amplification was thought to be too loud. Carters Steam Fair had bigger rides than before and was thought to stay open beyond its licensed hours. There was a lot of litter in surrounding streets. Plastic poster ties were scattered around the perimeter and should be part of an events clean-up. Funfairs in Hackney parks are the subject of a specific review. The Daymer festival was on 6th July and the Yoruba festival on the 26th and 27th of July. Noise levels and site use will be monitored by Council officers.

The *Son et Lumiere* event with 'silent' fireworks on 8th November: still awaiting a report on the test evening's effect on Park animals and wildlife.

A Winter Wonderland event is being planned for the QE Olympic Park which may mean we do not get our ice rink. The meeting felt that these were two very different things serving different communities and the group would be very unhappy to lose the ice rink after all the work done over the last two years. Chair will pursue. ACTION CM

The Hackney web page for Clissold Park does not show any of the commercial events and still does not give the out-of-hours emergency contact details.

CPUG events

The Family Fun Day on the 21st June was very popular and there was lots of positive feedback. 44,000 people used the park that day. Caroline thanked all who helped make it a success and the meeting warmly applauded all the hard work and time that she had given to make it such a success.

The Quiz night raised £700, for which the organisers Yvonne and Hilde were thanked and congratulated. The funds have helped to pay for the various 125 birthday events.

The installation of pop-up power points in the park to avoid using long extension cables was suggested and Bruce confirmed that this was on the Park's 'wish list'.

The Clissold Park 125th Birthday on Thursday 24th July will be marked with the official opening of the refurbished commemorative fountain and a re-creation of the Photograph of the Clissold House on its opening in 1889.

A Shocking Attack by an uncontrolled dog has resulted in a dog dying from its injuries. The sympathies of the Group had been passed to the owner who was a regular park user and who has naturally been both

severely shocked and upset by this. The police have advised that anyone seeing such an incident should immediately dial 999.

The next CPUG meeting will be from 11-12 on Saturday the 6th September 2014 in Clissold House

Contacts

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

Park Manager: bruce.iring@hackney.gov.uk 02083564958

Café Manager: Paul Mason clissoldhouse@companyofcooks.com

Clissold House Room booking Emma Finch clissoldhouse@gll.com or call 020 7249 2308

Head of Leisure and Green Spaces Ian.Holland@hackney.gov.uk

Lead Councillor for Parks: jonathan.mcshane@hackney.gov.uk

Police: 0208 721 2923 / 07879 603106 / Clissold.snt@met.police.uk

Clissold Safer Neighbourhood Team 020 8721 2923