



Clissold Park User Group News

Notes of our January 13th 2018 meeting

Present

Mark Forsyth (Chair), Quinten Geurs - Park Manager, Richard Crawford - Biodiversity, Isabelle Gore - website, Cllr Sadie Etti - Clissold ward councillor Lorraine Walpole, Betty Manning, Yvonne Hill and about 14 other park users

Apologies

Lee Stacey, John Hudson, Theresa Boden, Daphne Steele, Kath Willgress

Matters arising from November meeting

Memorial drinking fountain - The taps have again been broken. They will be repaired again.

Pump House - The tender document is being reviewed for sig- off by Hackney Council. Following this the tender document will be made public

Buggy damage - Notices have been put up in the house asking people with buggies to take extra care and try to minimise the damage done to the fabric of the house.

Playground - There is considerable damage around the slide and the mound. The slide has been closed, and quotes have been received for repair work.

Spring talks - Mark Forsyth apologised to the meeting for not following up the suggestion of spring talks to be organised by the user group. This will be followed up before the next meeting.

Park manager's report

Company of Cooks - The cafe is currently offering several promotions when ordering food, such as a free hot drink with breakfast or a glass of wine with a meal.

Playground - Standing water at the bottom of the slide is believed to be caused by heavy rain.

Planting - Signs will be erected in the spring to prevent damages to the beds by the house which will be replanted. Thanks were offered to all who volunteered with bulb planting.

Toilets - A survey will be carried out by the end of January to identify existing problems and with the aim to refurbish if required.

Tree works - A list of the proposed new trees to be planted in the park this year will be made available through the user group web site.

Aviary - A consultation paper is being drafted to review the future use of the aviary and butterfly dome.

Cyclists going too fast - Signs will be painted on the ground asking for considerate cycling. They will be in keeping with cycling signs in the rest of the borough and will be placed on the diagonal paths. The option of raising the dropped kerb on one of the Church Street entrances is being considered to reduce the ways cyclists can enter the park.

Benches - The benches have been reinstalled under the canopy at the lower ground floor of the house. There is a noticeable build-up of litter such as pizza boxes and cigarette ends. The situation will be monitored.

Thanks were offered to all involved with the **Christmas market**.

Biodiversity Update

There was much discussion regarding the two large plane trees behind the house. There is a proposal to drastically prune or possibly remove these trees because they are believed to be suffering from extensive root rot. The meeting agreed that if possible these trees should be preserved and that wherever possible the council should take a position of conserving trees rather than removing them. It was stated that the council must make public safety a priority, and any trees which are a potential danger must be pruned or removed. Even so, the group agreed that conservation of trees must be a priority. The user group will not be writing to Thomas Campbell, Hackney council's tree officer, about this issue but individual members are welcome to.

News and upcoming events

A question was asked about whether the cafe would offer a discount to people who bring their **own cups to take away hot drinks**.
AP - Mark Forsyth to ask cafe management

A plea was made for more people **to volunteer for user group events**. It is increasingly difficult to organise events because of a shortage of volunteers, and it would be a shame if we were unable to carry on with our events.

The user group stall at the **Christmas market** raised £66. Thanks were offered to all who helped out on the day.

The user group has **applied for a grant to plant a further wild flower meadow**. We will find out in February if we have been successful. More at the next meeting.

There is a proposal to **install a fitness equipment dispenser** in the park for a trial period. It is a system where people who register can rent some fitness equipment from a machine in the park. It will not cost the park or Council any money so the trial is likely to go ahead, probably near the multi-use games area.

The house was closed for a day due to filming. The cafe were compensated for the loss of earnings and a **donation of £1,000** was made to the user group.

Next CPUG meeting

Saturday 10th March
11am to 12 noon.
Venue: Clissold House, Clissold Park

Contacts

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

Park Manager: Quinten.geurs@hackney.gov.uk or call 020 8356 4215

Café Management:
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Clissold House Venues and Events Officer,
Christine Rupprecht:
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Lead Councillor for Parks:
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Police: 0208 721 2923 / 07879 603106 /
Clissold.snt@met.police.uk

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Clissold Safer Neighbourhood Team: 020 8721 2923

To join Clissold Park Users Group

Sign up for our latest news and browse this website / join our Facebook Group / and just come to the meetings!