

CLISSOLD PARK USER GROUP

NEWSLETTER AND MINUTES OF MEETINGS

July/August 2006

EVERYONE WHO USES CLISSOLD PARK IS PART OF THE USER GROUP – EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

To join the Clissold Park User Group (CPUG) mailing list and for this newsletter by email, contact clissoldpug@yahoogroups.co.uk
Or see www.clissoldpark.com

**Next general meeting:
Saturday September 2nd 2006
11am – 12 noon
Clissold Park House, red room in café**

**Next Annual General meeting
Saturday November 4th 2006**

All meetings are open, public meetings, anyone can attend and active participation from park users is always needed and very welcome.

**Minutes of the meeting held on
Saturday 1st July 2006:**

Present: Ken Worpole (Chair), John Hudson (Co-Vice Chair), Caroline Millar (Co-Vice Chair), Yvonne Hill (Secretary), Paul Foinette (Area Parks Manager), Jim Blinko (Park Supervisor), Betty Manning, Daphne Kemp, Christopher Sills, Anthony Joseph, Ann Mc Ginley, Don Giddens, Hettie Sears, Simon Lissner, Penny Crick, Lorraine Worpole, Sylvia Anderson, Ms Brassett (Park Ranger), Jonathan Clark (Rector St Mary's), Kate Brown (Early Years Advisor, The Learning Trust)

Apologies: Mark White (Operation Manager),

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING
Accepted as true record of meeting, save planning permission has been given for bandstand; hold up is to do with need to strengthen design of uprights.

PARK MANAGER'S REPORT-Paul Foinette
Green Flag inspectors have visited; outcome expected 5th July.

Path resurfacing complete, except snagging list and further improvements to edging and area between ponds. Perimeter fence, new inner fence around animal enclosure and benches complete. Large, dead ash in 3 Q E Walk to be felled.

Concern expressed re scabs on Horse Chestnuts leaves along Queen Elizabeth Walk. Moth damage?
ACTION: PAUL FOINETTE TO INVESTIGATE

3 Queen Elizabeth's Walk supposedly designated emergency accommodation; intruders had to be removed again; possibility of community police offices? Concern expressed at the continued lack of progress on the redevelopment of this house, which continues to deteriorate shamefully.

Vandalism of bowling-green house, and at night generally, has impeded summer activities, and a source of frustration. This rests with **HACKNEY** emergency housing department.
Suggestion that Police be given residency in Clissold House. Security needs to be reviewed as part of Lottery Bid.

ACTION: PAUL FOINETTE TO LET KEN KNOW NEW POLICE CONTACT.

Disabled access for Café: temporary ramp to be installed from Borough Surveyors Dept. Will look to permanent structure asap

ACTION: PAUL FOINETTE

POND FENCING will be redesigned to do away with unsatisfactory gate.

ACTION: PAUL FOINETTE

ST MARY'S OLD CHURCH YARD: responsibility for maintenance with park and London Borough of Hackney (LBH) but no remit for graves, which are responsibility of descendents.

CHAIR'S THANKS were extended to Paul and his team

LOTTERY BID

St Mary's Church also applying to Lottery for £1.25 million to renovate old church and as performance venue: theatre, music, possibly dining. Imperative that LBH consider Clissold Park and St Mary's together. Effective consultation is a pre-requisite of a successful bid.

Caroline Millar, John Hudson and Penny Crick attended the Project Reference Group meeting and reported that:
Renewed consultation may now take place in July although concern was expressed by the group that timing during summer holiday period may not provide reliable, effective response. Cllr Nargis Khan, Lead Member Leisure Services and Carole Stewart, Assistant Director Culture and Leisure, are leading on this. Still at first stage of the application. Progress

noted in that now some recognition that there may need to be some LBH funding and that investing in the park would be cost effective and worthwhile.

This bid should now come under the new strategy of “ **Parks for People**” which is not so bound by ‘heritage’ focus, therefore sports and culture can be played up more and there is more scope for the park to score well.

ACTION: KEN WORPOLE to write to Joyce Guthrie, who has already promised to attend the CPUG meeting on Saturday 2nd September. Points to be raised: LBH gave assurance that they are already liaising with St Mary’s and yet the Rector has had no response to communications; lack of liaison with local schools; failure to work together with CPUG and St Mary’s could prejudice both claims; copies to be sent to Mayor Jules Pipe and Diane Abbott MP.

EVENTS AND LICENCES

Stokefest not able to go ahead due to waterlogged field and/ or due to lack of entertainment licence? The latter is now granted to a place and not a person and nobody took responsibility for this change of law, hence late notices around the park.

Concern was expressed about lack of clarity re areas of responsibility for hiring of events; Arts Council grant for events goes to LBH and Jenny Batchelor is the Events Coordinator. We wish to maintain good relationships with hirers e.g. Zippo’s circus.

ONE O’ CLOCK CLUB

The severe vandalism to the Bowling Green house has led to a search for another venue for summer events. Cannot be in the Rose Garden as no events licence for this area.

It was suggested that the One O’ Clock area would be eminently suitable. Discussion ensued again about current limited use of this prime location and accommodation. How could we maximise the use of this area, and build on previous ideas for extending hours for under-fives and for children with disabilities? The group welcomed Kate Brown, Advisor for Early Years, The Learning Trust. Kate Brown mentioned imminent management reorganisation of the One O’Clock Club, and also her willingness to discuss development and use of the One O’ Clock Club. Discussion may well be germane to the Lottery Bid, and will be a good opportunity to review strategy and funding.

ACTION: YVONNE HILL to set up meeting

List of summer events needs to be circulated to schools before end of term.

ACTION: ANTHONY JOSEPH to check info passes from Hackney Events’ Coordinator to Learning Trust.

THE BANDSTAND

Appreciation to staff and students at Stoke Newington School was expressed for their dogged determination to keep this community project alive, and for raising funds. Sylvia Anderson and Anthony Joseph have been liaising and supporting the School in this project. Anthony has commissioned new plans, which strengthen the uprights but retain the original design. Some concern was expressed about the cost of the reworked plans because of the use of valuable material for the roof, especially in view of the constant vandalism in the park. Assurance was given that the materials would be as secure as possible, or plans could be adjusted to use cheaper material. Possibility of CPUG raising funds?

ACTION: ANTHONY JOSEPH TO INVITE RELEVANT CONTRIBUTORS TO CPUG MEETING ON 4TH NOVEMBER

CONTACTS

Clissold Park User Group Website

www.clissoldpark.com

1. For information and to Join CPUG at:

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/clissoldpug/join>

2. Once joined, email other members through:

clissoldpug@yahooogroups.co.uk

3. Contact the CPUG secretary directly at:

clissoldpug@yahoo.co.uk

Contacts for The Park

Parks Manager/Office, Paul Foinette:

8800 1021 & 07958 692551

paul.foinette@hackney.gov.uk

Rangers’ office/Tennis bookings: 7923 3660

Tennis Club 7254 4235 and

info@hackneycitytennisclubs.co.uk

Head of rangers’ service:

balavant.barber@hackney.gov.uk or 07985 692585

Hackney Council 8356 5000

**Dates of next meetings:
Saturday September 2nd**

then

4th November 2006 (AGM), January 6th 2007

First Saturday of every other month

**11a.m.-noon
Clissold Park House,
red room in café**

ALL WELCOME!