

Clissold Park User Group November/December 2011



Misty November morning - thanks to Phil Glazer

At the meeting:

Caroline Millar (Chair), John Hudson (Sec.), Richard Logan (Vice Chair), Ken Worpole, (President) Sylvia Anderson (Older People's Rep) Mark Forsyth (Dog owners rep) Cllr Linda Smith, Cllr Daniel Stevens, David Woodhead Asst Director Health and Wellbeing, and 30 other park users.

Apologies: Matt Jeary, Lisa Gormley

Meeting Minutes: 12th November 2011

Comments/Action points in italics:

Chair's Report

Caroline gave a detailed written report (attached) and also commented on:

Dogs in the park: report also attached (and on website)

House and Café: opening on Tuesday 3rd January

House and Park Manager post: David W reported that its grade/authority was increased after CPUG consultation
Could current Park Manager attend meetings in the meantime?

Skate Park: repairs underway. Consultation group being formed – *Sylvia A asked to be included*

Animals: goats added; chickens soon to arrive, but not rabbits as the RSPCA warned they are vulnerable to foxes.

*Birds are difficult to see through the Aviary's heavy mesh.
Open the Butterfly Dome in Winter?*

Security: upgrade being installed.

Toilets: now open. *But shut an hour before park closes. And signs needed!*

Planting: contract failures being vigorously pursued by the Council.

Bridges: now in place. The current wooden panels are temporary. New metal side panels are still being made.

Signage: new signs now installed. Legible London signs will also be placed outside two main gates.

Duck feeding signs need to be clearer.

Future events: the Olympic torch will go through the park on 21st July 2012 A parade and event will be organised. CPUG is planning a Big Draw event in the house and park in October 2012.
Hackney's Events Policy still awaited.

Membership and involvement: over 350 people on our mailing list, 150 members on our Facebook Group and 30 on postal list. Isabelle G has overhauled the website. In June to November 2011 it had almost 12,000 visits.

Fundraising: needed for the website and for the restoration of the Runtz and Beck memorial fountain by July 2014, the 125th anniversary of the park being given to the people of Stoke Newington. *The other fountains must also work!*

We are applying for a Mayor of London's micro-grant (£1,000) to fund the launch of volunteering in the park and we want to fund the Big Draw event in October

2012, to be held in partnership with Hackney Council.

General Discussion:

A count of visitors and activities in the park is needed. A count was reported of 83 different activities on one day!

HBC to liaise with CPUG re a survey/sampling process.

Suggested uses for the bowling green were discussed.

When will the ugly overhead cable to the Mansion be removed?

The path from Green Lanes to House badly damaged by lorries etc.

Rubbish bins removed during works had not been replaced and some entrances had no bins.

David W to check/action all the above.

Safety in the Park:

Lora Tordelli from the Lordship Safer Neighbourhood team responded to concerns about thefts from young people in the park. She did not think that these were increasing, but people tended not to report such thefts, or often too late. Prompt reports allow them to identify hot spots and focus their presence. They were around the Park and schools at relevant times. Better co-ordination between police and park rangers was needed. She urged people to guard against their possessions being put at risk in vulnerable situations.

Some young people didn't report incidents for fear of retaliation and police, school and the community needed to work with and to advise them on how best to deal with this difficult problem; while still using the park in safety.

Safer neighbourhood teams were on duty until 10pm. They could be contacted on 0208721 2924 - Lordship team (for the park) and 0208721 2923 for the Clissold team.

999 should be used for emergencies, 101 for non-emergency reports and general enquiries.

David W said that the long awaited restructuring of the Rangers' service

would be in place early in the New Year and the work, procedures and responsibilities of Park Rangers reviewed. The House and Park Manager would be a key part of implementing that.

After meeting note:

Tennis court floodlighting:

This Planning Application will be discussed at the January planning meeting. CPUG reps plan to attend.

Contacts:

Park Rangers:

020 8356 6834

This connects to a mobile phone

Park Manager:

michael.dixon@hackney.gov.uk

Council Officer for Parks:

Colin.stuart@hackney.gov.uk

Parks Development Officer

eleonor.johnson@hackney.gov.uk

Police: 020 8721 2923 (connects to a mobile)

or 07879 603106

Clissold.snt@met.police.uk

Sergeant in charge:

Sue.C.Wright@met.pnn.police.uk

To join the Clissold Park User Group

Email: clissoldpug@googlemail.com

Website: <http://www.clissoldpark.com>

Join our Facebook Page

Or just come along to our bi-monthly meetings (always an hour long –max)

**Our next meeting is at 11am on
Saturday 14th January 2012**

**Venue:
The Mansion House
Clissold Park**

BACK HOME AT LAST!