

Northfield Constituency Environmental Forum

Minutes of meeting 30 March 2012

Present; Graham Andrews; Amanda Cadman; Roland Kedge; Geoff Ray; Donna; emma; Sarah Royal (BOSF)
Apologies Penny Moore. Sue Amey. Jo Webb

Welcome.

Amanda welcomed the newly formed friends of West Heath Park (Emma, Sarah, Donna) and Sarah from BOSF to the meeting.

Matter Arising

West Heath has applied for 30 trees for an orchard.
Previous minutes approved.

Friends Groups

1. West Heath

Donna is developing the gardening skills with local residents. The black path lends itself to clearing and developing in a sensitive way. They are looking to develop and expand the friends group.

2. BOSF

Sarah gave an outline of what they do at BOSF and what BOSF can do for friends groups.

There is some small funding for new groups. Can offer advice for new groups.

Coffee morning 2nd May.

B-Active stats. Send them in and get £80(4mths) +40 (at 9mths) for your group.

More information from Sarah on Info@BOSF.org.uk.

Sarah can help you put up bids for Lottery funding

BOSF conference 26th May and AGM at the MAC Canon Hill.

BOSF newsletter requires your event information to promote your events asap.

Financial report

LEW has cost NCEF nothing.

LEW

This leaflet has been very well received.

Libraries/doctor surgeries/Schools/Community Halls/Vets etc. are places to put them.

Be Active and the meeting with Karen Jerwood is attached.

The rangers offered to be a walk leader if it was just once a month. NCEF would be interested in doing monthly walks but would need ranger help on some.

Amanda is looking into possible walks from the rail stations.

Friends Group

a) Cofton

Who is the developer of Low Hill can they help us find/set up a friends group for cofton via advertising.

Rangers have planted 3000 trees in the park

Can an event be organised in the summer to promote the park/friends. Rangers are to consider.

b) Perry Barr and Stirchley are to new groups

Database

Nothing new to report.

Ranger Service

Lickey hills rangers have acquired 2 new rangers/helpers. Support officer Vicki Tregar and David Beardsmore a ranger warden. Rangers are still one person short.

Travellers are back in the area-Adams hill.

Several parks have now been made more secure. Manor farm, Cofton, Selly oak, Shenley open space.

FOMP 400 plants have been planted.

Mowing regime has changed. Will annual mows also involve a collect? Rangers to confirm.

Cop hill rubery quarry- parks are working to reduce the arson risk.

Balaams wood – Carried out a holly clearance

Orange Rock Corps-youth volunteers are around they are free and linked to rock ticket sponsorship via orange telephones. Contact the rangers for more details.

Kings Norton park -Orchard planted.

Future Plans for NCEF

1) Rea Valley Group

Cover Waseley to Spaghetti junction. They focus on the bits left without a friends group. e.g Daffodil park litter pick...still no friends group.

Brook at back of Turves Green School is pretty but full of fly tipping. There is a lovely little dingle which has great potential but is not suitable for local volunteer clearance. 10 people have helped pick the level area.

A letter is requested from NCEF to BCC Housing or whoever owns it. Roland is to help Amanda and Sarah to draft up a letter.

2) Monthly walks

3) NCEF/Be-Active

Send your returns to Sarah or get a form from her. There is money in it for your group. £80 for 4 returns, + a further £40 after 9 months....it'll pay for your annual insurance for example so get sending!

4) New Members

We need to attract all environ groups in Northfield to the NCEF meetings. The ramblers don't attend this meeting. Are there any other groups we are missing?

Member Group Reports

Rea Valley

Coleys lane wild-flower seeding in April

Friends of Ley hill

Planted wips and bulbs wit local school. Planting orchard (10 trees) in April.

Friends of Kings Norton Nature Reserve

Orchard being planted

Triplex to help fund and plant trees.

Extending LNR to Popes lane

Potential funding to develop wet land habitat. Site visit with ranger service late April

Sue amey has obtained funding of 10K.

Balaams wood

Easter egg hunt 7th April

thanks to Sue Amey and Ken Wood for community orchard funding.

AOB.

REMEMBER to send BOSF your activities so they can be put in the newsletter.

Date of next meeting 27th June 2pm Oddingley hall tbc.

