

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF FRIENDS OF ALKINCOATS PARK**

**MONDAY AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7PM AT PAVILION CAFÉ**

### **APOLOGIES**

Mary Thomas, Stephen Clamp, David Clamp, Vanessa Hothersall

### **PRESENT**

Audrey Broughton, David Clegg, Glenda Clegg, Colette McInerney, Brenda Maylor, Daryl Wright, Pat Clamp, Eileen Eve, Barbara Whalley, Carol Riley, Marie Oakley, Ailsa Gill PCSO 7530, Marie Jackson

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.** These were passed

**MATTERS ARISING.** Kieron had sent on update on lots of issues:-

Leaking above the disabled entrance to pavilion:- Liberata were to look at it and organise repairs. It was pointed out that if gutters were installed it would make access on to the roof easier for vandals

The cutting of paths through the wildflower meadows had been arranged.

The damaged netting around some tennis courts would be replaced when the MUGA was being installed.

The benches from outside the Walled Garden had been moved into the park

Painting of the park benches had been arranged with Boococks who should begin work in September

Lee was to give Audrey a spare key for the notice board when he returns from holiday next week.

The Round house had been inspected and was found to need repairs. Kieron was to have these costed. In the meantime there was no point in trying to paint it.

Lots of tree work had been done prior to CTC take over.

Tenders for the MUGA were to be awarded in the next few days and work would hopefully begin mid September. There were two rubbish bins to be installed at the same time

Ground Maintenance tender had not yet gone out due to a delay. David Clegg told us that it would now go out on Sept 6<sup>th</sup> and it would have to be out for 6 weeks to allow for three applications. The Play Area contract would go out at the same time. Therefore Pendle would maintain the Park and Play Area until Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. He also told us that the Bowling Green area had not yet been sorted.

The Tai Chi event was very successful with 81 people attending. Ages ranged from 2yrs to over 90yrs. Some came from as far away as South Manchester and students from Rossendale

Audrey reported that the Summer Fayre at Birtwistle Centre raised £16

**GREEN FLAG.** This had been awarded again this year.

**CAFÉ NEWS.** The café raised just over £1,700 at the Summer Gala. This was to be shared between The Bowling Academy and Pendleside Hospice. The café is also sponsoring an under 7's football team who play at Holt House. Eileen said volunteers for the cafe were always welcome. She reported that there has been no trouble with children around the café during the school holidays

**BOWLING ACADEMY.** Daryl reported that it was doing very well and expanding all the time. Lancashire and Yorkshire played their finals on the greens. The Doubles were won by a local pair. The Weds team won in Yorkshire. The Monday team are in a final with Barnoldswick to be played in Padiham. There is a chance of winning two trophies. Alkincoats are top of the Worth Valley Veterans league. There have been over £1,000 in prizes for the Philip Wright and Junior cups. Compliments about the Greens have come from all over Lancs and Yorks. One of the best players in the country told David that the greens were NOT the best in Lancashire.....they were THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY!!

**WALKING FESTIVAL** This was to take place this weds (August 14<sup>th</sup>) at 11am from the café.

**LITTLE LANTERNS WALK.** This takes place on October 11<sup>th</sup> and people to volunteer as stewards would be very welcome.

**AOB.** It was reported that the Bridle Way is now almost impassable and needs cutting back.

**CAR PARKING:-** There was a long discussion on the need for more parking as the park, the Bowling Greens and the café are now so popular. Lots of ideas were put forward and it was agreed that parking needs careful planning and risk assessment. It was agreed that this issue needs solving before planning an entrance feature. David Clegg suggested looking at this again after the MUGA has been installed. Daryl told us that once the Bowling Academy Trust is sorted they will be able to apply for numerous grants which could possibly be used to create additional car parking space.

**THE WALLED GARDEN.** This caused some consternation as CTC were under the impression that the Friends would take over the flower beds and therefore had not budgeted for their maintenance. However members felt they had neither the knowledge nor the physical strength to do this work. A vote was taken and 6 members said they would not be able to look after the flower beds. Other members abstained. There was a suggestion to fill in the beds but it was recognised that the Walled Garden was a popular feature and part of the history of Alkincoats Hall. Eventually it was decided that nothing hasty be done, that we wait for CTC to take over maintenance in Jan and see how the budget and Tenders pan out. It was also suggested that we approach Elijah House as a possible source of volunteers.

**ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.** Daryl asked Ailsa what could be done about problems re drinking and drugs around the pavilion at night. Particularly worrying was the apparent use of nitrous oxide cannisters as youngsters are using them and then driving. She said that we need to keep reporting it as 'hotspots' get the most attention. She will put in a request for more patrols. She also gave out her contact cards.

**MUGA** Ailsa asked if the MUGA would be lit. It was explained that it wouldn't be as it was felt lighting attracted the wrong people at the wrong time.

**LITTER** Marie reported that there had been a big drop in the amount of litter she collected.

David Clegg asked if the group would be willing to check on work done once they take over and Tenders are agreed. Members said they would. Contact would be Naomi Crewe 01282 861888

Or [admin@colnetowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:admin@colnetowncouncil.org.uk)

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY NOV 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 7PM AT PAVILION CAFÉ.**