

**Silver End Memorial Gardens
Friends Meeting**

Monday 29th March 2010 7.00pm

Actions Points from the Meeting

Present:-

Cllr Phillip Hughes (Chair) (PH)	Jenny Claydon (JC)
Nick Day (ND)	Peter Game
Terry Want	Pam Bugg
Louise Harvey (LH)	Roy Ockelford (RO)
Jan Ockelford	Cllr Iain Ashford (IA)
Cllr Alan Waine	Cllr Jackie Nesbitt (JN)
Vicky Waine	Mary Chalk
Ann Wood	Jim Sanders (JS)
Alan Gray	Jane Carey (Jane C)

ITEM	ACTION	BY WHOM
1	Welcome by BDC Councillor Phillip Hughes Cllr Phillip Hughes explained the main purpose of the meeting was to establish whether the existing "Friends" wish to set up a formal "Friends" group.	
2	Current list of "Friends" of Silver End Memorial Gardens JC holds contact details.	
3	Format for `Friends` Group JC explained that the Management Advisory Group had been very helpful whilst the park was being restored but the Group had 'disbanded' in 2005. It was agreed that meetings of Friends of the Gardens would be arranged as and when needed to support and influence the development and life of the Gardens. Minutes of Meetings The Minutes of the meeting will be circulated electronically, put on BDC website and a paper copy displayed in one of the notice boards.	JC/ND LH
4	Green Flag Award & Green Heritage Accreditation for the Gardens JC explained the Braintree District Council is aiming to achieve the Green Flag Award again this year and to try to get the Green Heritage Accreditation as well. Management Plan JC advised the group that an updated Management Plan for the Gardens has been submitted as part of the Green Flag Award application. If anyone would like a copy - please contact LH to receive via email. Alternatively Roy Ockelford offered to hold a paper copy of the Plan to be available on loan for those without internet access.	All RO
5	Maintenance Issues ND asked that those using the park could be encouraged to be his "eyes and ears" and report any problems to him. He will put his contact details in the boards in the park. Proposed railings round heather garden ND suggested that the chestnut fence around the heather garden should be replaced with railings to protect the heathers permanently. JC and ND will prepare a drawing detail for permanent railings.	ND JC/ND

	<p>Paving repairs ND will be reviewing the condition of the paving stones leading to the Memorial Stone (to Lord Braintree) and those in the central stone path as some may need replacing after the harsh winter.</p> <p>Rose Garden ND will replace some of the roses in the rose garden from Cants of Colchester, the original supply. The layout will be kept the same as the recent design by Mrs Laura Russell (Crittall). Jim Sanders advised that one of the red roses is planted in the wrong place: it should be a pink one - ND will sort this out too.</p> <p>Pagoda JC suggested that photos of the pagoda be not used in any publicity, as this may increase the risk of it being stolen or damaged. <i>Post meeting note: if anyone becomes concerned that there is unusual activity around the pagoda, please contact Essex Police on 0300 333 4444 and Braintree District Council on 01376 552525 immediately.</i> There have been many thefts of historic artefacts from parks, gardens and other locations as there is a "black market" for public art made from any material.</p> <p>Volunteering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Jim Sanders advised that he and other members of the community could help out with work in the Gardens. b) Cllr Ashford advised that he is a member of the Carbon Reduction Group and an event that they have been looking at is bulb planting - the School, Scouts, Children's Centre etc might be able to help out. ND, Cllr Hughes and Cllr Ashford to discuss this further and agree a date. <p>Pond It was agreed that a simple Management Plan for the pond is needed. LH to check with Simon Taylor regarding his offer to carry out pond surveys.</p> <p>Possible Community Service in the Gardens and Village Peter Game (part time warden) has been approached by a Probation officer working with people who are carrying out Community Service Orders and available to help out in the Gardens and the village. ND will need to be informed of any proposals.</p>	<p>ND</p> <p>ND</p> <p>ND</p> <p>ND, PH IA</p> <p>JC/ND LH</p> <p>ND</p>
6	<p>Future events in the Gardens – current programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) JC read out the draft events programme for the Gardens for the year. b) Cllr Nesbitt has contacts for a small locally-based fair that may be suitable for the Gardens c) <u>Heritage walk</u>: Cllr Waine looking at 14th or 21st August; this will be held as part of the ECC's "One World One Essex Initiative". 	<p>JN</p> <p>AW/JN</p>
7	<p>Proposed 1950's Picnic JC circulated a proposal sheet and an outline programme for an event to be linked to the history of the Gardens with the community involved = especially families = 1950's picnic with stalls, dancing displays, fancy dress parade/competition and a storyteller. <i>Post-meeting note: The idea has had to be abandoned as the park is not big enough to cope with the numbers likely to attend. The open space behind the village hall is suitable for such an event but not part of the Gardens.</i></p> <p>Story Teller Event <i>Post-meeting note: it may be possible to hold a simple event in the Gardens for years 3 and 4 at Silver End Primary</i></p>	

	<i>School - these children have been studying the history of the village etc this year. LH and JC will look into this and find out costs etc. Funding_ JC to approach BDC and SEPC.</i>	LH/JC JC
8	<p>Any other Business</p> <p>User Surveys It is proposed to carry out a further user survey in 2010 following on from previous surveys carried out in 1996, 2006 and for the `Parish Plan`. JC asked for help carrying them out; Jim Sanders offered to help out. Any other volunteers or assistance - please contact JC.</p> <p>Tai Chi Mrs Waine stated that a couple of years ago a Tai Chi group came and carried out a display in the Gardens, which worked really well. LH to investigate whether a repeat event could be organised. <i>Post-meeting note: initial contact has been made with a Tai Chi teacher who has offered to visit the park to assess options.</i></p>	JC LH
9	<p>Close of meeting Cllr Hughes thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm</p>	

For further information please contact:

Louise Harvey, Development Services, Braintree District Council on 01376 551414 x 2565, louise.harvey@braintree.gov.uk

Jenny Claydon, Development Services, Braintree District Council on 01376 551414 x 2565, jenny.claydon@braintree.gov.uk

Nick Day, Environmental Services, Braintree District Council on 01376 332314, nick.day@braintree.gov.uk

www.braintree.gov.uk

To report damage in the park please contact:

Nick Day (details above)

or send an email to csc@braintree.gov.uk