**Thursday 18th June 2015, 7-8pm**

**Children’s Centre –Lane**

**Minutes.**

Ben Bendall (Chair) BB

Jo Knight (Vice Chair) JK

Roger Barker RB

John Wagstaff (JW)

Jayne Nicholls (JN)

Ken Patrick (KP)

Pam Smith (PS)

Steve Walker (SW)

Sophie Walker (SoW)

Steve Harrington (Local Councillor) SH

Chris Tudor (WFDC) CT

**Apologies:**

Gary Darlington (Treasurer) GD

Adrian Sewell AS

Alan Breen (WFDC) AB

Nathan Chater (West Mercia) NC

**1.** **Welcome & Introduction**

BB welcomed the group to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance and gave apologies.

**2. Actions from last meeting.**

BB confirmed the order of the Portacabin with delivery set for Friday July 10th 2015. SW offered to tape off area of the park for delivery.

Meeting to be arranged with Kidderminster College to discuss future projects and days available to them per their September 2015 timetable. BB and JK To address.

No update from LD re 2016 Calendar. JK advised the group she had asked LD to contact a number of people off our Facebook Group to use their photos and also included a recognitions page.

BB has contacted AB regards Himalayan Balsam. CT was advised that next year WFDC would be prosecuting themselves if the plant is not managed and destroyed. A group from Kidderminster College met last week as a working party to start work in the top left corner of the park.

Re cementing of waymarker is to be addressed by SW and SH. To liaise with each other over a suitable date. Cement to be left in the boiler room, JK to drop her keys off to SW.

**3. Items for discussion.**

**The Football Association**. Ernie Pyke is looking to contract out the grass cutting of the football pitches and cleaning of changing rooms to a reliable source. The electrics are due to be renewed having been condemned in 2011. The FA were not advised by WFDC prior to taking on the lease. The showers are currently not fit for purpose! The group were in favour of taking on this role and sub contracting grass cutting. BB and JK met with a company on Monday am who submitted a quote by the afternoon. This company could also offer other services which would be valuable to the park.

It was noted that future use of the Football pitch should be booked with Ernie Pyke and NOT WFDC. BB to forward future dates of events.

JN queried if our Public Liability Insurance covered this. It does. BB reminded the group a demand form WFDC for £100 per booking is unreasonable and should not be paid lest it be construed as an acceptance of such a liability that would be impossible for any insurance company to meet.

**The Stackpool.**

Concerns have been raised by the local community and members of the group re the welfare of the wildfowl following numerous incidents with dogs and fishing line. A dog, a cygnet and a gull have all recently been found entangled in discarded fishing line and rescued as was a magpie some months ago. Additional concerns have been raised on night fishing and removal of fish from the Stackpool. JK informed CT that none of the cygnets had survived. This year we have 5 and we want to do everything possible to protect them!

NC has forwarded details of Julian Ward the Wildlife Crime Officer for West Mercia Police. He has already patrolled the Stackpool early hours of the morning and would continue to do so.

SH has contacted Linda Collis at WFDC with photographs and concerns at the state of the fishing platforms which are unsafe. The Old Bear Fishing Club will be served with a 28 day notice to improve the platforms or have their lease terminated.

Coir rolls are to be planted near the shoreline area of the Stackpool to help give some protection to the wild foul. BB highlighted the fact there is a live electric cable running at the shoreline of the Stackpool. This was found by RS Taylor when drainage work was carried out. CT to inform WFDC ASAP.

The Stackpool Group on Facebook have offered support where possible and are also liaising with SW.

BB informed the group Mary Stevens Park in Stourbridge were looking to sell on / relocate their fish. CT to look into.

**St. Mary’s Church**

JK approached at SiS with regards to joint refund raising with the church. The group weren't particularly in favour but suggested funding information be forwarded over in support.

**Future Events.**

The next July events are

Pond Dipping on Sunday 12th July – FoSP to provide refreshments.

Broadwaters Summer Fayre, GD to confirm date of Sat 11th – Bric A Brac sales.

Volunteers required.

**School Holidays.**

JK advised the group there were minimal activities for children in the park this summer by WFDC. For that reason DY10 have booked Kidderminster Harriers and also a weekly bouncy castle, for 6 weeks for the park. JK to try and match fund with support from the Local Councillors to provide the bouncy castle an additional day so twice a week in the Summer / School Holidays.

**4. Finances / Funding**

**Balance in account 15/6/15                            £2540.88**

Reserved for Spring Into Summer 2016            £950.00   (Balance left from 2015 £450 / Mary Raynor £500)

Reserved for gardening supplies                      £156.50

Reserved for Insurance                                    £200.00

Reserved for calendars                                    £400.00

**Cash available                                                £834.38**

**5. WIP WFDC**

* Speed bump – work to commence 1/6 revised date given of end of June 2015
* Tree felling re proposed woodcarvings. 1 tree had been felled but cut back and not left as a suitable size for carving. JK to print off Tree Felling plan.
* List of actions from Ian Millers visit. Outstanding 18/6
* Removal of trees from Clensmore. Work to commence end of June beginning of July 2015. Revised date of end of 2015 beginning of 2016 as part of Winter Works plan.
* Tidying up of woodland area at the Broadwaters entrance. Work party from WFDC to review.As yet no date given.

**8. AOB**

**History of Springfield Park**

JW has been given documentation on Springfield Park from when the park changed from a ‘ tip’ to a park. JK handed information to RB, both agreed to visit the hub in Worcester to continue with RB’s research. Discussed after meeting as meeting finished early.

**Music in the Park.**

BB has already started to approach musicians and artists to provide Sunday music in the park throughout Summer, funding available from our bank balance..

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| Action | Details | Member |
| 1 | Portacabin delivery 10/7  | Ben/SW |
| 2 | Speed Bump, work to start w/c 1/6 postponed 30/6 | WFDC |
| 3 | Tree Felling for woodcarvings OUTSTANDING. |  |
| 4 | Ian Millers list |  |
| 5 | Clensmore tree work to be carried out end of June, beginning July.postponed till 2015/2016 | WFDC |
| 6 | Broadwaters Entrance tidying to start w/c 25 June. | WFDC |
| 7 | Park projects for Kidderminster College meeting  | Ben / Jo |
| 8 | Compile photos for 2016 calendar | Lynn |
| 9 | Contact WFDC for their action plan regards Himalayan Balsam | Chris |
| 10 | Re cement of way makers in the Park | Steve/Steve |
| 11 | BB to discuss future plans with Ernie Pyke and the FA | Ben |
| 12 | Confirmation delivery date of Coir rolls | Chris /Alan |
| 13 | Live Electric Cables to be addressed ASAP  | Chris /Alan |
| 14 | Fish re stock from Mary Stevens Park. | Chris |
| 15 | Funding info to be forwarded to St Mary's Church as and when available | Jo |
| 16 | JK to approach councillors for match funding | Jo |
| 17 | Historical research to be continued | Roger/Jo  |
| 18 | Music and funding to be sourced for park events | Ben/ Jo |