Friends of Hedgemead Park

Picnic planning meeting St. Swithin's café 5.30 24th April 2018

Summary

Those present:- Geoff Cooper, Ursula Ward, Paul Brewster, Stephanie Pollard, Nigel Pollard, Graham Groom, Caroline Groom, Henry Williamson, William Gaskell, Keith Stuffins.

Questions from last meeting, answered by Jeremy Dymond during recent phone call (Play + Community Development Officer) We have permission to put up posters advertising the picnic, as long as they are of good quality and fixed well to the railings.

The 15th July doesn't clash with any other booked event in Hedgemead Park.

Jeremy had no objections to us having alcoholic drinks at our picnic, although he was going to check on the by-laws concerning alcohol in public places.

We would only need a licence for music, if the music was central to the event. There is no need to apply for a licence if the music is incidental.

Events application to B+NES Parks Events Team

Jeremy Dymond had contacted the events team with our proposed date. To confirm this date we needed to put in an events application. I submitted that application on 16.4.18.

For this initial event Jeremy has generously said that the council will cover the £90.00 application fee. Normally the group running the event would have to have public liability insurance, but on this occasion we will be covered by the council's insurance.

Picnic timing. At the last meeting it was suggested that we would start at 4.00pm. Because the world cup kicks off at 4.00, and it is Wimbledon men's final day, the picnic will now be advertised as 1.00 to 3.00, a lunchtime picnic.

Graham and Caroline offered to set up a Friends of Hedgemead Park, hotmail account. It was agreed that the picnic should be advertised on the B+NES Parks twitter feed.

Poster for the four entrances to the park. Graham has drafted the poster, which just needs the time changing and minor changes to the wording.

During a recent phone call, Jeremy had some useful pointers. On the day, have a different poster. Have a bad weather plan. Have a plan in case many more than the expected 50 people turn up. So that people know who the picnic is aimed at, use the phrase "the community using the park" or "park users". Have two people who can be Friends "ambassadors", who can encourage people to join in with Friends events (We don't want to seem to be a large group having a private picnic) William and Nigel volunteered to be ambassadors.

Paul volunteered to approach Domino's Pizza, for some free pizzas, which would give them good publicity in return, supporting a community event in the local area. Any extra food would be good for any people just turning up on the day.

Champagne Reception. As a separate event William is organising a champagne reception in the park at 12.00 noon, on 19th May to celebrate Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding; followed by a meal at The Clifton Sausage. This is also a Friend of Hedgemead Park event.

Date for next meeting. At the Friends of Hedgemead Park meeting on 16th May 7.30pm, we can decide if we need another picnic organising meeting before July.