## Friends of Hillside Gardens

## <u>MEETING</u>

## 3rd June 19

### **Present**

Tom Stanbury - Chair

Nigel Duckers – Minutes Secretary

Rosena Skeete

Tony Emerson

Andreas Kappes

Martin Goffe

Dino Skeete

Gerry McAteer

Rezina Chowdury

Marie Cox

Kyle Moreland

Stuart Handy

# **Apologies**

None

1	Minutes
	The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.
2	Sports Day
	Tom reported on the numerous activities during Sports Day – including tag rugby, tennis, yoga, netball etc. We are hoping that the yoga provider from South London Institute may want to do further sessions. Clip Theatre – who ran a well-attended activity for under-fives and raised £86 – will also hopefully do more in the park. It looks like over £200 was raised overall. Martin Goffe reported some interest in the allotment among local children; tea was successful, although Tom felt that the organisation of that needed more planning in the future. He also suggested basketball and cricket – played in the MUGA – as possibilities. MG commented on how nice it was to see the park so active. It was felt that the youth of today don't know how to play rounders!
3	Tennis
	DS reported on tennis. Serious about Tennis did not get Mayorial funding for social tennis, so that will go ahead with a small charge on Friday evenings, with Junior tennis preceding that. There is a new girls tennis session; the men are

doing particularly well in competitive tennis. Court 4 has been cleaned by Lambeth with a powerful new jet washer. Ruth Davies (LC) has said the lines will be painted and Tom will follow up. Dino suggested doing them himself but we thought Lambeth should be given a while to follow through. Dino has refurbished the tennis noticeboard. This will display the safeguarding policy and there is an LTA Inspection for that on 24th June.

Dino also ran through options for future surfaces, ranging from tarmac, to synthetic grass, acrylic and synthetic clay; with advantages and disadvantages. TS commented that from the point of view of kids, they just want a decent surface. ND pointed out that the courts don't all have to be the same. The matter was referred to the Steering Committee for consideration in relation to costs and the overall plan.

## 4 Section 106 Steering Committee

There have been over 50 respondents to the survey to date. Attendees were encouraged to complete it. AK will promote via the email list and website. There was some discussion around the building, which Lambeth are refurbishing for the maintenance team to use; particularly around shared usage/access. TS commented that he was surprised that this had happened with little consultation, given the Friends interest in using the space. ND and DS took the view that, essentially this was 'their building' and it was reasonable they would want a workspace with sole access. TE disagreed, arguing that both parties essentially needed an equipment store. KE said we should ask 1) Is sharing reasonable 2) What the plans are if not. LA will be copied-in to correspondence to aid a resolution of the matter.

TS is actively pursuing Rob Kelly to hold a meeting of the Steering Committee asap in June.

#### 5 PRNG

The major landscaping work involving diggers has taken place; there is a new pond – which is holding water - and the community orchard has been planted, with trees including mulberry, grapes, quality apples; mainly native trees. The wildflower meadow is fenced off to enable it to establish itself. Next steps involve a small performance area and composting toilet. A launch event, with a local theatre group, is planned for one of 10th or 17th August. GMcA has ordered a 4-wheel trolley, which we can use, along with existing power tools.

### 5 Allotments

MG reported on the allotments. We have federated with the Lambeth Horticultural Society; all are let; there is a waiting list, who have been invited to dig out brambles if they so wish and pointed to Dulwich Vegetable Garden protem.

KE said there are now 3 hives/swarms; one is doing well, the other two are establishing themselves. KE enquired if chemicals were being used in the park. RS confirmed they were, but generally less harmful pesticides. KM also enquired about the Tree Survey, which ND said already existed. KE would like to see a broader survey of planting etc in the park, to which TS agreed. TS reported on the removal of a small number of diseased trees.

6	Treasurer
	Hannah Nunn is still having difficulty moving our bank-account to the Co-Op because this needs previous signatories to sign. GMcA confirmed that we now have our own Public Liability Insurance.
7	Social Media
	Marie Cox volunteered to help AK set us up on Instagram and also integrate social media eg Facebook, Twitter etc; also, to advise PRNG on this.
8	AOB
	None
9	DONM
	16 <sup>th</sup> September