



FRIENDS OF HOMEFIELD PARK
Committee Meeting 3rd July 2018 at 7.30pm
At East Worthing Community Centre

1. **Present and apologies** – Sarah Cutler, Pam Bennett, Mike and Mo Bailey, George Hamilton, Yvonne Leonard, Joanne and Janette (East Worthing Festival), Christine Stevens (Worthing Boys Club) Keith Walder (Park Ranger)

Apologies from John Smith, Pauline Cory, Cllr Jim Deen, Emma Baars, Jon Taylor, Susan Belton.
(Apologies from Jim and Emma by email which I didn't see until later)

2. **Minutes of last meeting** – These were agreed and signed

3. **Any Matters Arising from last Minutes**

a. Keith reported that work on the tennis courts will start on 29th July and take 10 weeks depending on weather. It should be finished by October and the official opening will be in April.

b. Community Picnic – Thanks to Emma and Sam for organising this successful event and to everyone who helped out on the day including Fiordelatte who provided 30 pizzas, Burger and Brownie who provided a big tray of brownies, Morrisons who donated money, Boris from Kami Crepes who donated 13 free crepes and burgers for the tombola, Christine who also provided most of the tombola prizes, Wilkos who provided the craft stuff, Jim for letting us borrow tables from the Labour Hall and East Worthing Festival and Pauline for the loan of gazebos. Thanks also for helpers on the stalls and putting up the gazebos etc and to Keith, our trusty Council Park Ranger for transporting the tables etc and staying to help out.

35 children took part in the Bug Hunt and 5 people took part in the Human Bingo.

The tombola sold out and almost £60 was raised.

The free food went down well but should have been advertised as free but it was also queried why extra food was purchased when it was a picnic and food was also donated.

It was felt that the stalls could have been spread out a bit more but this is something we can remember for next time. (There will be Emma's comments which were received by email too late for the Minutes, at the end of the Minutes)

4. **Treasurer's Report and Membership**

Balance at 1st June - £1961.69 **Income** £4 (membership fees) Donations and fees (picnic) £24 Tombola (picnic) £62 = £90

Outgoings £6.90 (Room rent) £57 Picnic flyers £98.39 food etc for picnic £40 Insurance for picnic, = £202.29

Balance at 2nd July - £1849.40 (cheque for WBC for insurance and also for picnic food not yet presented.)

All those present at meeting received a detailed report.

We now have 32 paid up members.

5. **Website and Facebook**

Sam has updated and taken over the running of the website and is helping out with facebook. Thanks to Stuart Spicer for doing this for us previously.

6. Any Other Business

Jo and Janette came to the meeting to let us know that sadly they will not be holding a future East Worthing Festival which has been going for over a decade. The lease of their shop is up and, as they don't have enough volunteers to help, have found it difficult to organise. The very windy and stormy weather last year caused their marquee, where food and drinks were being served, to be badly damaged. One volunteer was badly hurt. They have very kindly offered Friends of Homefield Park the gazebo and anything else we could use. Pam and Sarah and maybe Emma will arrange to visit the shop in August to take a look. After they have paid all bills and expenses they have also offered to donate any money left to us.

This will be a great loss to the community and to Homefield Park where the festival has been held in recent years. Joanne offered her help with any forms etc that we might need for future events.

7. Date time and venue of next meeting

Tuesday 7th August at 7.30pm at East Worthing Community Association.

Emma and Sam's Takeaways from the Picnic are:

- 1) Everyone worked together really well on the day manning the stalls, welcoming people, explaining what the Friends are all about and encouraging people to get involved.
- 2) At least 200 people attended in total which is brilliant. We had some great verbal feedback – the picnic really surpassed people's expectations and were keen to come again. There was a great mix of people there on the day – we'd clearly brought together a real cross-section of the community.
- 3) Lots of good social media coverage, connecting us with local businesses, the council, police, etc. Some great new photos for the website.
- 4) 30+ new signups, people who have expressed a willingness to be actively involved in future.

Our main action point as a group should be to reach out to the people who signed up as soon as possible and try to get them involved in the Group. We have the signups, we'll put them in a spreadsheet, where do we currently save contact details? We'll also create a draft for the email and send to all for feedback.

I'm also going to start pulling together a bid for table tennis tables, will keep you all informed.