

**FRIENDS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS  
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY GROUP (MAG)**

**Minutes of meeting held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011  
in the Lounge, Methodist Church, Pamela Gardens, Eastcote  
at 7.30pm**

**Present: Lesley Crowcroft (Chairman), Carolyn Derecki (Minute Secretary), Keith Barnard (Treasurer), Chris Groom ( Vice Chairman & Chairman Eastcote Residents Association.) Marg Bacon, Rosemary Bucksey, Joan Butfield, Gerry Edwards ( Chairman Eastcote Park Estate & Eastcote Horticultural Soc.) Heather Chamberlain, Linda Furnell, Jenny Gurdon, Gill Hughes, Jess Lee, Ian Murray, Jane Neave, Cllr David Payne, Damien Searle, Susan Toms ( Ruislip Northwood & Eastcote Local History Soc.), Nick Woodley ( Chairman Friends of Bessingby & Cavendish Parks MAG)**

- 1.     Apologies for Absence: Cllr Catherine Dann, Cllr Eddie Lavery, Bob Densley, Roy Cadoux, Frances Hawkins, Karen Spink, Linda Laurie, Peter Saunders, Sheila Cave**

- 2.     Amendments to Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010:**

**7. Walled Garden Project:**

Bullet point 1. The Mayor of Hillingdon not London.

Bullet point 3. Should read 4K not 4000K

Bullet point 4. Should read 3K not 3000K

The Minutes were then duly agreed.

- 3.     Matters Arising**

- Treasurer's Report – Keith Barnard has now taken over as Treasurer for the Friends A/C. Former Treasurer Roger Brown has handed over all paperwork etc and KB has the latest bank statement from HSBC.
- Steve Dunne has agreed to be the auditor for the Friends; he is also auditor for The Forresters in Eastcote. KB reported that there is £1300.13 in the Friends Account.
- EHS Flower Show 19<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The Friends are paid up members. Linda Furnell and Jane Neave have agreed to be the Friends Show Committee. EHG hopes to exhibit this year.
- Friends visited Field End Infants School to prune and tidy garden. LC to have meeting with Head Teacher to gain some idea of overall plan for the garden.
- Friends Liability Insurance now in force.

- 4.     Occasional Meeting of Friends Committee**

- The Committee have agreed to occasional meeting between the QGMs. Two have taken place. One to discuss guidelines for the use of EHG by outside groups; these

have been forwarded to Green Spaces for approval. The second meeting to set the events programme for the next eighteen months.

Graham Pellow attended this meeting with ideas for a logo for EHG.

- Gardening sessions will be held twice a month.
- EHS Shows March 19<sup>th</sup>, June 18<sup>th</sup> and September 10th 2011.
- Community Volunteer Day Saturday 26th March.
- May Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, (Bank Holiday Monday) Launch Appeal. This is the same weekend as the Royal Wedding. It was decided that a small celebration (2-4pm) of the Royal wedding will be combined with the launch of the Restoration Appeal.
- A shrub, suggestion a Myrtle, will be planted in the Walled Garden to commemorate the RW.
- The Treasure Hunt – clues left around the garden for entrants to find; all will receive a small prize, an entry donation will be asked.
- Especially for children, a Best Dressed Teddy competition with a Royal Theme.
- Maypole Dancing, if a group can be found in time. Gerry Edwards is helping with this.
- Tony Bucksey will organize means of heating water for teas and coffees.

## **5. Awards**

- Almost £3000 has been awarded for the Sustainability Grant for the Walled Garden. From this, extra compost bins, extra tools, high visibility jackets, hot water flasks, First Aid kits, portable shelving for storage and refreshments for volunteers will be purchased. In addition, First Aid training will be provided for members of the Friends.
- JB worked with Waitrose Ruislip and they have nominated EHG as a good cause for the month of March. Members asked to add their tokens to the EHG pod. At the end of the month all monies raised will go towards the Restoration Project/Jubilee Community Orchard.
- Gazette/Barclays 'Let's Do It'. The winning group will receive £1,000 and two runners up £500 each. Entry date – end of February. EHG has been short listed. There will be an article in the local paper towards the end of March/April.
- Pacesetter Wild Flower Project, London in Bloom. Donations of seeds for wild flower meadow have been donated to six to eight groups across London. DS
- Woodland Trust award of a pack of 420 hedgerow trees has been sought.
- Green Flag entry has been submitted. The Management Plan has been updated and parts from the Conservation Management Plan have been merged into the current plan. We are also to enter 'It's Your Community – London in Bloom' this year – judging May and July respectively. DS

## **6. Walled Garden**

- Bulbs are coming through! The last memorial seat is likely to be purchased by the family of Sheila Liberty. In place of seats a Commemorative Tree Planting Scheme will be introduced starting with the renovation of Elizabeth Copse in the autumn. Three trees are under offer and three people have shown interest. Trees approximately £200 - £250 each. DS

**7. Financial Matters**

- Funding is required for hire of hall. ERA reluctantly agreed to fund the hall up to June 2011. Need to seek further funding from next September. Methodist Church is £14 per evening. LC suggested that ERA should be asked to pay for this hire as per the ERA committee commitment last June, this was agreed. LC suggested that Friends/CP should take part in the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial and present a wreath to commemorate the British Legion's 90<sup>th</sup> year. Cost approximately £15; LC to tender the bill.

**8. Steering Group – HLF Bid**

- DS reported two meetings of the Steering Group on February 14<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> and a visit to EHG to establish the possible site of new build, if approved, incorporating a tea house, toilets, admin. Room, linked by a glass atrium with a flat upstairs, which could be used for a site administrator.

**9. Restoration Appeal**

- £1,000,000 approximately needed with hopefully a large part of the funding coming from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

**10. Jubilee 2012**

- Designs for the Jubilee Gates to be shown to the Leader of the Council to choose. The date for the Celebration Picnic depends upon the date of installation of these gates etc. The Community Orchard will be planted late 2011 and will be part of the celebrations.

**AOB**

- LC has asked that EHG be considered for S106 payments (from developers in the area for local community facilities) towards the restoration.
- LC discussed the possible purchase of a 3 x 4m gazebo for Friends which all thought a good idea. Suggestion to look on eBay as some prices far too high.
- ERA Summer Fete will not go ahead. Do we want to hold a small event during the summer; Big Lunch, Picnic? Mixed response from members.
- LF kindly to give Cotswold Stones to Field End School, for the school garden
- LC announced that CD will be standing down as Minute Secretary and from the Friends Committee at the AGM in June and asked for a volunteer to fill the post. LC thanked CD for her help and support, and the committee seconded the vote of thanks.

### **Diary Dates**

- London Open House Weekend – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011 – open 10-4pm.
- October Community Volunteer Day etc.
- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2011, Carol Fest and tree dressing, to include local schools.
- Next meeting June 2<sup>nd</sup> which will be the AGM

### **2012**

- January 7<sup>th</sup> Wassail
- June Jubilee Picnic, same format as 2010

**As there was no other business the meeting closed at 8.40pm**