

## **Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

**1.0 Present:** Adrian Ellis (chair), Mark Whittaker, Michaela Wood, Jay Havoleana, Peter Bardsley, Robert Wilson

**Apologies:** Dave Burrows, Bill Ardern, Chris Armit, Sue Clarke.

### **2.0 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.

### **3.0 Matters Arising.**

#### **3.1 Green Flag**

The Park retained the Green Flag status again this year. The report from the judging was passed around at the meeting and it was noted that the result had improved from last year. Mark Whittaker and Michaela Wood requested a copy.

The Award ceremony will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 11:00am. The Mayor has been invited to raise the new flag, and Councillors, Friends of the Park and local school children have been invited.

#### **3.2 Marple Locks Flower Bed.**

The Stockport Council floral garden based on the Marple Locks was a great success and achieved a 'Gold' award. After the show the feature was relocated into the Memorial Park near to the bowling green. Sadly the structure suffered some damage and the playground maintenance team is to investigate the repair and/or replacement of the damaged items. It was recognised that the structure was not designed for permanent display and it was agreed that the structure might need to be substantially strengthened if it was to survive. There has been no further development at this time though the structure could possibly be made out of steel or it was suggested to move the structure to Oldknow garden where it would be on display to people entering and exiting Marple and would possibly not come under the same vandalism pressure.

#### **3.3 Task Days.**

The following dates were agreed for task days

10:30 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October

10:30 Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November

10:30 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

### **3.4 Coronation Bench**

The coronation bench has now been installed in the park and seems to be used by a large cross section of the community. Mark Whittaker explained that the 2 plaques would be ordered as soon as possible at a cost of around £100 - £150 for the two. Part of the grant agreement from the council is that the group report back over the usage popularity of the bench Robert Wilson agreed to monitor usage. When the plaques have been installed the Stockport Express/Times should be invited for photos article.

### **4 Treasurers Report**

The current balance in the Friends' account is a healthy £706.34. We have spent £828.96 so far this year with only £8.52 of income due to interest on the account and need to consider seeking additional funds through grant applications and donations if we are to maintain our rate of spending into next year.

### **5 Monthly Park Report**

Robert Wilson reported that the main duties over the last month were just general maintenance tasks e.g. mowing, litter clearance, emptying bins and weeding of shrub and flowerbeds. Robert reported that the Bowling Green was now recovering from the recent drought conditions and was once again returning to its natural colour!

### **5 AOB.**

Mark Whittaker thanked Robert Wilson for his help for raising and lowering of the flag on Merchant Navy Day. Mark also asked if there was any further movement on the restoration of the sun dial and that the old flagpole had still not been removed. The group would like to think of new projects at the next meeting to include such items as wooden sculptures and perhaps the old project of installing the Oldknow statue in the park.

### **6 Date of next Meeting.**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of October at 6:30 in Marple Library.