

Friends of Marple Memorial Park Meeting
Monday 22nd May 2006

Present: Peter Clarke, Michaela Wood, Bill Ardern, Jay Havoleana, Dave Burrows, Chris Armitt, Bob Wilson, Sue Clarke (minutes)

Apologies: Mark Whittaker, Adrian Ellis

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.

Matters Arising

- Sundial – Dave Burrows reported that contractors had been to look at it and that he was now trying to organise funding.
- Park Cottage – on going. Treetops builders had been in the building and costings were being put together.
- Coronation Bench – finished apart from painting and stored in one of the garages in Brabyns Park in two halves. Will be welded together in situ. Peter trying to arrange painting. Had a trial fitting round the tree on Sunday. Two plaques to be fitted – one saying why its there and one for Ironwood.
- Interpretation Boards – in production and should be in the park soon.
- Playground Grant – Bill and Micaela had put together an application and sent it in to Granada on Tuesday. Probably not hear anything more now until August.
- Tree Survey – Peter had met with Ian Dunne regarding the trees on the far side of the bowling green beginning to block the view. 5/6 trees in question – some already damaged so Ian Dunne had no problem with them being removed on the condition that they are replaced with specimen trees of some sort elsewhere in the park.
The trees to be removed in two phases – this Autumn and next.

- Wildlife Survey – Peter had met with Dave Burrows and Henry Campbell-Ricketts from the “wildlife dept” to discuss how wildlife could be encouraged in to the park. Henry Campbell-Ricketts preparing a report. Posts have been put in to indicate where the wildlife area is and a path cut through the long grass.
- Bench near Senior Citizens Hall – the wood is now available and just needs fitting on to the concrete stumps.
- War Memorial Wall – waiting for quotes, handrail also hoping to be fitted
- Lighting – work has started on the lights but not yet finished.
- Rockery – no movement on this yet. Rocks still at Brabyns.

Officer's Posts

As Peter and Sue are about to become licensees at the Ring O' Bells Peter asked if anyone would be willing to take on the role of Chairman for about 6 months or failing that the meetings would have to be put on hold for 6 months.

Dave Burrows volunteered to Chair the meetings. Sue will continue as Secretary.

AOB

Micaela had brought in a newspaper clipping about SMBC's entry in to Tatton Show being based on Marple Locks. Discussed possibility of bringing the display back to the park once the show at Tatton is over. Dave Burrows said he would have to see it before he could decide if it was practical.

Park Report

Bill Ardern asked whether access through the gate near the compost heap could be opened up for wheelchair access on Carnival day as the New Horizons boat would be moored there. Dave asked Bob to have a look at it.

Chris Huxley, one of the Park gardeners, has been promoted to Community Parks Officer at South Reddish Park so will be leaving.

Next Meeting Monday 26th June, 6.30 at the library