

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

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

**1.0 Present:** Dave Burrows(chair), Mark Whittaker, Michaela Wood, Bill Ardern, Jay Havoleana, Chris Armitt, Brian Nash, Peter Bardsley

**Apologies:** None Received.

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

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved.

No matters arising.

BN 'volunteered' to take the minutes of the meeting.

### **3.0 Green Flag.**

The Park retained the Green Flag status again this year. The report from the judging is expected towards the end of August, and will include any strengths /weaknesses to be addressed in the future.

The Award ceremony was previously was held on a Saturday and it was suggested to hold this one mid week in order to enable school children to be involved. It was agreed to hold the ceremony on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 11:00am. The Mayor would be invited to raise the new flag, and Councillors, Friends of the Park and local school children would be invited.

### **4.0 RHS at Tatton Park.**

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 over the weekend the structure suffered some damage and the playground maintenance team are to investigate the repair and/or replacement of the damaged items. It was recognized that the structure was not designed for permanent display and it was agreed that the structure may need to be substantially strengthened if it was to survive.

### **5.0 War Memorial.**

The repair to the memorial was now complete. DB reported that it was possible to fit a handrail along one side however the condition of the structure on the other side was not suitable. Contractors are to investigate the possible strengthening of the weak side in order to take the handrail.

### **6.0 Task Days.**

DB suggested that there were plenty of tasks that could be carried out including bedding planting, bulb planting, weeding and shrub pruning.

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

### **7.0 Monthly Park Report**

Recent activity centred around bedding, general tidying and the survey of Park users.

### **8.0 AOB.**

BA wished to put the record concerning complaints made about the state of the Park on the Monday after the Carnival and that the park staff had no help tidying up on the Saturday. BA stated that on the Saturday there were 6 carnival committee members clearing the park and by the end of the evening there was no rubbish left at all. On the Sunday the car rally had used the park and was not the responsibility of the Carnival. There is to be a debriefing meeting of the carnival committee and the Park staff are invited to attend.

BA advised he had received a response to the application to the Lottery Fund for the playground indicating the project was not on the short list but is added to the reserve list.

BA passed on the complaint that over the weekend the toilets in the Park had been closed at 3:30. This is a continuing problem as the Council cleansing team is responsible for these and all the other toilets and due to current resources these early closures are unavoidable.

MW reported the foundations for the Coronation Bench were installed and the bench has been spray painted and it is expected to be installed on 26<sup>th</sup> August.

MW advised that the Merchant Navy Day is on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and the flag would be flying from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

JH suggested that attempts should be made to involve more local children in the Park, through rambles, nature walks, and educational activities. Bob Wilson had organised such events previously at Reddish Vale and so could introducing similar for Memorial Park.

DB mentioned that the 3 trees on the far side of the bowling green have been removed and 2 more will be removed next year. They are to be replaced with specimen trees elsewhere in the park.

### **9.0 Date of next Meeting.**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> of September at 6:30 in the Library.