

Jesus Green Association

Committee meeting of 5 April 2011 at 23 New Square: Minutes

Present: Anthony Bowen, Peter Constable (chair), Jo Morrison, Richard Price, Martin Thompson.
Apologies: Jeremy Purseglove.

1. Minutes of 7 March were accepted.

2. Matters arising. PC and one other had assisted in cleaning the Green (but not the ditch); the tricky and tedious nature of the job for the Council's men was noted. PC had attended the AGM of the Friends of Midsummer Common; the continuing problem of vehicles getting on to the Common had been discussed.

3. PC and AB reported on their meeting with Alistair Wilson and Sarah Tovell on 24 March. ST's agenda showed little progress on all the items which have occupied it these last two years and more: the Bowls pavilion awaited a firm deemed fit to demolish it; the Children's playground would be re-equipped only as part of a larger bid for equipment and would not be done before the autumn; a trial of stone mushrooms for barbecues was proposed, but how many, where and when, and what enforcement of the law would there be?

Litter and bins continued not to meet demand (MT thought a commercial collecting firm was driving all over the grass); the tennis courts would go to planning in June or July; the hammerhead design was no good (JM's design was noted), and nothing had been done to get the Beer Festival people into discussion of their needs in detail. All this was deeply frustrating. But the events list looked OK (but had not been published), the removal of the Leylandii had been a success (but plantings elsewhere went against agreed proposals; PC had protested), and rebuilding the Skatepark would start on 13 June.

Rejigging of the Council's staff and procedures was still not complete; any power to get anything done was invisible. In particular, the HLF bid was getting nowhere; none of the parties who needed to be involved had been gathered together. A bid in July looked very unlikely. AB would contact EDF and Pip Noon on JGA's behalf.

4. RP reported no change in the finances: we had £258.35. Last year we spent £279.50, but £80 was for plants for Jesus Lock garden. It was agreed to send committee's appreciation of and thanks for the good work now so visibly done. More planting was planned, under the bridge this side.

5. RP noted the lack of an Hon. Secretary to deal with minutes, the website and the noticeboard among other things. MT made suggestions for the noticeboard, to keep people informed of the committee's actions.

6. Next meeting: 6.0 p.m. on Tuesday 3 May at 86 de Freville Avenue.

Peter Constable (chairman)