

HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**FRIENDS OF THE TOWN PARK**

A meeting of the Friends of the Town Park was held in the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Huntingdon on Monday 13th December 2010 at 7.00pm

In attendance: Councillor Brian Luckham (Chairman), Claire Tunnicliffe, Deputy Town Clerk and Dennis Smith, Parks Manager, Huntingdon Town Council; Roger Watson: Lee Murray, Luminus Neighbourhood Warden; and residents Zoe Pitcher, Nick and Trish Bradbury.

Apologies: Councillor Claire Dutton; Huntingdon Town Council: Sgt Michael Basford, Cambridgeshire Constabulary; Peter Jackson, Chairman of Huntingdon in Bloom, Ann Colbert & Secretary of Huntingdon in Bloom & resident Berly Demanie.

The meeting began with introductions from those present and Claire Tunnicliffe (CT) thanked everyone for attending.

Councillor Brian Luckham (BL) informed the group that as a Councillor for Huntingdon Town Council, he was the Chairman for the Leisure & Community Services Committee which looked after such areas as the arts, leisure, events and tourism matters; parks and playing fields, allotments and appropriate environmental issues amongst other areas.

BL informed the group that the purpose of the meeting was to elect a Chairman and possibly a treasurer, he then went on to explain the role of the Chairman and why a Chairman was needed for Friends of Huntingdon Town Park.

BL advised those present that he would be happy to mentor the new Chairman if required. The timetable of meetings would not be over demanding but would range from every six to eight weeks and once the group had become established would run quarterly

Nick Bradbury (NB) expressed an interest to Members that he would be happy to take on the role of Chairman.

It was agreed to send a press release to the local papers to introduce the new Chairman to the public. NB indicated that he would like to have an input into the press release and would put some information together for the attention of the Deputy Town Clerk.

As the group had not yet been formalised, it was decided that the appointment of a treasurer to the group could be put on hold.

Those present agreed that the focus of the group should be to promote the use of the park and assist with the maintenance of the park.

Members discussed ways to promote the park and it was agreed that links should be

established with local schools and nurseries to encourage teacher's to use the park as an outside classroom in the summer.

It was suggested that reading schemes run by the library could promote the reading circle, known as the 'fairy ring' in their literature.

Representatives from the Luminus Group suggested that events could be promoted on the company intranet and newsletter for Luminus residents. It was agreed to contact the Luminus Communications department to see if this may be a possibility.

Members suggested that Anglian Water should be contacted to see to see if they would support Friends of the Town Park in a similar way of advertising events on their intranet

Members agreed to look at areas for improvements, the current and future uses for the park in greater detail at the next meeting.

Members then looked at the other forms of advertising that could be of use to promote the group and the park; the following portals were mentioned;

- About Town, Huntingdon Town Council's quarterly newsletter
- Huntingdon Town Council website
- District Wide, Huntingdonshire District Council's newsletter
- LIVE Magazine, Huntingdon Town Partnership's newsletter
- www.cambridgeshire.net
- www.visithuntingdonshire.org
- Electronic tourist information board in the town centre
- www.huntingdonpeople.co.uk
- www.aboutmyarea.co.uk
- BBC radio Cambridgeshire
- Anglia television

As a Chairman had been elected for the next meeting it was agreed that a constitution for the Friends of Huntingdon Town Park should be considered at the next meeting.

It was agreed to hold a fourth meeting at the end of January 2011, which would allow time for the constitution and the Group's objectives to be completed.

