



**Friends of Montgomery Street Park
2011 AGM - Minutes**

7.30pm Wednesday 01 June 2011

at

The Calton Centre
121 Montgomery Street
Edinburgh

1. Welcome
2. In attendance: Tasca Shadix, James Bednar, Chris Rankin, Michael Davidson, Sharani Osborn, Andrea Manning, Geraldine Debard, Linda Somerville, Aileen Hope and Rosie Cooper of Friends of Dalmeny Street Park, Artist Hatt Reiss, Bec Ewing
3. Apologies: Catriona Grant, Lynn Grant, Shahid Chishti, Christine Rigouleau, Julienne Thurrott, Mark Lazarowicz, Louise Lang, Maggie Chapman, Pat Whitaker
4. Minutes from previous meeting discussed.
5. Quorum
6. Chair's report - Updates and Plans (See attachment)
7. Treasurer's Report – (See attachment) **Michael to put on website with AGM minutes and Chair's report**
8. Election of Committee Members
 - a. As there were no challengers for committee positions, they will stay the same. (Chris Rankin will remain Chair, Michael Davidson Vice-Chair, Christine Rigouleau Treasurer, Geraldine Debard Community Liaison, and Tasca Shadix Secretary).
 - b. It was decided to eliminate the Events Coordinator position as a permanent committee position, as we've been recruiting coordinators for specific events on an individual basis, and that seems to be working well.
9. Constitution/Membership
 - a. It was decided that we would like to introduce a one-off membership fee of five pounds which will be for a 'lifetime' membership.

- b. **Michael** will pursue the issue of the ‘join’ and ‘donate’ buttons on website.
 - c. We discussed what sort of membership ‘packet’ we will provide for those who join. It was decided that we will create badges for members. Possibly donations above a certain amount (e.g. for gift memberships) would receive a more elaborate welcome pack, possibly with something like a bag. Membership cards?
 - d. We discussed publicizing the changes to membership but will likely need another meeting before proceeding with this.
10. Bec Ewing reported on her fantastic work coordinating the August event with Khloe Salmon:
- a. She has been coordinating activities, e.g. retro races, bike obstacle course, etc, as well as...
 - b. Contacting sponsors
 - c. Contacting some kids’ performance schools, (there is a plan to have some kind of performance stage)
 - d. Exploring the possibility of a photo competition, (to start perhaps a month before the event)
 - e. Taking care of setting up First Aid, Guides, Bouncy Castle, 5-a-side football, etc.
11. Hatt Reiss discussed the possibility of substation painting, to address the issue of recurrent graffiti tagging/repainting by Scottish Power. Hatt is a community-based artist. Suggested the possibility of working with Pilmeny Centre on Buchanan Street. We will need to approach Scottish Power once we get the idea together.
12. Rosie Cooper mentioned that John Lewis does free meeting rooms for charities, and that the Scottish Rural Network are running an online photo competition – we can visit their site and see how they do it!
13. It was decided that in the coming year, we would focus on the following:
- a. Seeking funding for improvements to the play park area
 - b. Exploring the possibility of a park entrance in the far end of the greenspace (along Elgin Street/Elgin Terrace) to open up the space and make that part of the park less of a “dead end.”
 - c. ...as well as smaller projects such as the substation painting, bee café, etc.

Next AGM: Wed. 30th May 2012