**Greenbank Residents’ Association**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2009**

Apologies: Irene, Ben, Liz, Parks

**Daffodil planting**

Marie Currie planting went well, and more bulbs have been planted since. Paul sold some on the allotments and Mark sold some in the pub. Mark will let us know how much money was raised when he knows the final figure.

**Christmas Fair**

Hannah has contacted the Council about a license but has not yet had a reply.

We need to make posters/flyers (Liz). There will be a cake stall (maybe cheese and onion pies as well), fruit & veg (Hannah to go with Mark to buy), tombola and name the ? (not yet decided). Everyone was asked to bring things to the next meeting that would be suitable for the tombola or raffle prizes. Judith agreed to ask Tesco in Levenshulme and Gorton if they would donate some vouchers.

Mark agreed to contact the person who did the jewellery stall last year.

There are quite a few bird boxes left so Gareth will ask Steve Downey if it would be possible to have a bird-box-making stall outside. If the council are involved this will mean we are covered for public liability.

We need to organise a press release and let other local residents’ groups know.

**ACTION: Advertising, and collecting stuff for stalls, tombola and raffle.**

**Sandwiches, tea, cakes and games**

On Saturday 21st November Hannah and Liz have organised tea, cakes and games at the library to raise funds for GRA. It will cost £4 per person. There will be a session at 11am and another at 2pm.

**Orchard**

Gareth has spoken to Steve Downey, who was hopeful that we would get the funding needed. Red Rose have some money available that we can apply for. Gareth has asked them to speak to Steve Downey.

**Youth Arts Project**

Some painting has been started but the buildings have been painted on, without consultation with GRA. Those responsible have been asked to remove it as we were told not to paint on them. Everyone agreed that the concrete posts look better now they’ve been painted.

The lectern has been moved from the Manor Road gate over to the wild flower area, as requested.

**Youth shelter**

This should be organised by Unity Arts, but Hannah has been quite heavily involved. She has investigated the types of shelter available. The preferred one is made of recycled material, and has a solar panel, a built-in radio and lights, for which a timer can be set. The cost is £8,000. For a bit more money you can also have a built-in Bluetooth receiver. The police have to approve the shelter, and they approved these ones in the past, so Hannah was optimistic that this one would be approved. However, the young people need to take ownership, so they would be asked to choose one out of a possible three. We also need to get youth signatures in support of the shelter to convince the police to give their approval.

**ACTION: A meeting needs to be organised with the young people, the policy and leisure.**

The money applied for by the young people will not cover the cost of goal posts, so these would have to paid for from alternative funding.

**AOB**

* Gareth has been given £30 from GRA funds to buy materials to put up the painted ‘poo boards’.
* The fencing and gates is now finished, apart from the laser-cut panels. However, it was noted that motor bikes can still gain access to the field from the entrance near the swimming pool.
* We need to speak to parks about the problems with drainage near the swimming pool. Large muddy puddles have been building up, making access difficult.
* At a meeting of ‘Friends’ groups in East Manchester Steve and Richard had praised GRA and the work that we’ve done. Steve was hoping to apply for Green Flag status within the next 3 years.
* We need to discuss possible future funding to improve the small park.

**ACTION: Investigate what can be done about the poor drainage near the swimming pool and wild flower area**