

## Notes from the HH Naturism Project Group meeting held 23 November 2013

The meeting was held at McGlynn's Free House, London. Present were eight NAG supporters and John Paine, with apologies from another four.

### 2. Progress since 21 September

**(a) involving other naturists.** People mentioned on 21 September had been contacted, some were present whilst others had indicated that for various reasons, distance, age, other commitments, this project was not one in which they personally could participate.

**(b) meeting with Glenda Jackson MP.** This had taken place on 5 November at Portcullis House and a report circulated. Glenda is the MP for Hampstead and Highgate and had been approached by John McP. She commented on the work to date and stressed that this Group would need to demonstrate that there were a significant number of naturists who wanted to use the Heath. Glenda suggested that one way to get the message to younger people would be through a Facebook page. She endorsed the need for networking with local groups to seek support for any project.

**(c) new Facebook page.** Natasha had had set up a Facebook Page for NAG and could also set one up for this Group. However, a HH Group Facebook would require a small band of volunteers to handle any message traffic that it would attract. It was agreed not to set up a new HH Facebook page until volunteers willing to respond were available. **[Persons willing to help with this should contact John Paine through the NAG website]**

**(d) HH photo shoot.** Harvey reported that he had names of naturists interested in participating. It was agreed that Harvey organise this in spring 2014, with up to 10 naturists participating. **Harvey spring**

**(e) HH litter pick.** Harvey had gone out on HH the previous week-end, it had been cold weather and so little activity on HH the previous evening. It was agreed to try to join the staff litter pick on a Saturday morning in early summer 2014. **Harvey summer**

### 3. Structure of the Group and tasks

**(a) Roles.** It was noted that this is a long term project and we need local people willing to be identified with it publicly. As we do not currently have local naturists in the Group it was decided to defer discussion on the structure of the Group until we had more local people involved. In the short term NAG would continue to operate the group with John Paine as the co-ordinator. During this meeting people offered to fulfil tasks where indicated.

**(b) Briefing on HH Management Plan.** The current comprehensive document runs from 2007 – 2017. It was agreed that we need to identify matters listed in it that would be helpful for the aims of this Group, and points that we should take serious consideration of. Chris agreed to undertake this task. **Chris**

**(c) HH Charter.** This is an ancient legal document which lays out the management responsibility for HH. Bruce had checked the Charter for Hampstead Heath to see for whom, and how, the Heath should be managed. The result was quite illuminating and Bruce agreed that his notes be circulated.

Harvey had also asked a solicitor friend Paul to also look at it.

**Harvey**

**(d) liaison with users of Men's Pond.** John McP was involved with this. The male naturist users came from all parts of London. It was agreed to ask John to continue to liaise with the male naturist users in 2014.

**John Mc**

**(e) liaison with users of Women's Pond.** Natasha had expressed an interest in developing this role. Maggie and Yasmin offered to help. Clive raised the equality implications of the current HH management policy, which is to discourage naturism at the Women's Pond. A strategy for action would need to be in place by summer 2014. It was agreed to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

### 4. Aims of the Group \*\*

**(a) strategy.** The agreed purpose was to progress the work for **Acceptance of naturism at Hampstead Heath**. Our three objectives were re-affirmed: to get acceptance of naturism at

**(a)** The Ladies Pond area *Short term*

**(b)** naked swimming in the Men's Pond *Medium term*

(c) the grass at the Cohen's Field area *Longer term*

The suggestion was accepted that we should not necessarily aim to publicly confront the HH management and seek that they change their negative official attitude at present.

(b) **recording of naturism activity.** We would develop a pro-forma sheet on which naturists, who wish to do so, could 'log' details of how and when the naturism occurred. Any such records would be recorded in a de-personalised way. **Clive + Maggie + John** *Medium term*

(c) **sexual activity complaints.** It was suggested that everyone should be encouraged to make formal complaints to the HH management when they witness any potentially criminal sexual activity on HH.

(d) **Official HH Sexual Activities Working Party.** This is a formal group within the HH Development Plan. It was agreed that we need to find out more about how this Working Party operates and whether we could access its meetings.

(e) **Discovery walk.** It was agreed that we organise 'a discovery walk' over the entire HH, to check against our previous information. Members of the Group would then be able to identify if there are any other parts of HH which may offer potential for naturism.

## 5. Publicity

(a) **Logo suggestions.** Harvey had created a number of ideas. Maggie is a graphic designer and Harvey agreed to liaise with Maggie on creating a finished logo. **Harvey + Maggie** *Short term*

(b) **Information leaflet.** This would be an explanatory A4 information sheet about the aims and work of this group. The leaflet would not mention specific HH locations. The finished item would be capable of a quality print-run and also for printing on home computers. It was agreed that Harvey and Maggie discuss this and John would join them later. **Harvey + Maggie + John** *Short term*

(c) **magazine articles.** A brief report on the September meeting had been published in magazines H&E Naturist, Naturist Life, and Singles Outdoor Club newsletter. John reported that a large article on London naturist activities and *The London Question* with photos was to be published in H&E Naturist. It would include the HH project. **John** *Short term*

(d) **Facebook page.** This was discussed at 2. (c) above. In addition supporters had posted comments and information about this Group on the NAG website and the BN Forum.

(e) **contacting local people.** It was agreed that this was necessary. Preliminary work needed to be done to ensure that this Group had a coherent message to take to local people and groups. The proposed information leaflet, when ready, would help.

(f) **people with skills.** The Group was pleased with current volunteers. It was recognised that the Group would also benefit by having a local person with media skills to assist with local media contacts and interviews.

(g) **possible film?** There were suggestions for a possible film, about naturism on Hampstead Heath and this Group by the Coventry film makers. Steve and John to approach them on 20 January.

**Steve + John** *Short term*

(g) **Spencer Tunick.** It had been agreed that he be approached about doing one of his mass nude bodies photos at Hampstead Heath. Ray was still exploring this. **Ray** *Longer term*

## 6. Planning 2014 activities

A number of suggestions had been made. NAG supporter Andy had suggested a number of naturist events which might be held. John mentioned that two years ago a local person suggested that a calendar of naked events be held at HH. It had not been taken up. Clive suggested that a naked bike ride happen in the summer. Andy had suggested a picnic.

## 7. Finance

Costs to date are minimal. A project fund-raising appeal to NAG supporters could be organised, if money is required, such as a leaflet print run.

### **8. The London Question**

John reported that there was a small amount of other work outstanding but the main focus in London was now on Hampstead Heath. John would discuss with NAG supporters how remaining *The London Question* matters would be finalised. **John**

### **9. Other matters**

**(a) SOC naturist dinner.** An invitation had been given to attend the SOC naturist dinner in Kentish Town, London, on Monday 20 January 2014. The price is £25 per person and John would give a short talk on the work of this Group. Any individual who is interested was asked to contact Steve direct at [skallott@yahoo.com](mailto:skallott@yahoo.com)

**(b) Parliamentary naturist group.** John would report this suggestion, whether such a group may be set up, to the NAG management group for them to consider. **John Longer term**

**(c) Naturism as an Art Form.** It had been suggested that such an exhibition, with naturists and life models involved as a live event, may be possible in the Hampstead area. John agreed to pass this suggestion to the NAG management group for them to consider. **John Longer term**

### **10. Date for next meeting**

It was agreed that this be held on Saturday 22 February 2014 in London, venue to be decided.

Notes compiled by John Paine, and finalised on 7 December