

Meeting with representatives of Brighton Pride 15 December 2010

Two committee members of the Friends of Preston Park met with representatives of Pride and had a positive meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to hear about the proposals for Pride in the Park in 2011. We also wanted to influence decision making over the format of Pride in the Park, taking into account the difficulties in 2010.

The **outline proposal** for Pride in the Park 2011 includes the following elements:

- the event will be on Saturday 13th August
- the event will again be in Preston Park, but ticketed, with fencing, and a number of access gates
- the scale of the event is yet to be decided but is expected to be smaller than in 2010
- the fenced area will not take up all of the Park
- glass bottles will not be allowed inside the fenced area - people will be advised of this in advance and told that they may be subject to searches by stewards/security personnel
- consideration is being given to how the parade will be dispersed once it reaches the Park, and how to 'manage' people who do not wish to purchase a ticket but may congregate in/around Preston Park
- the number of toilets within the fenced area will be sufficient for the number of people, as the number will be known
- security staff will be deployed– on the gates and around the area

Our requests

Based on park users', local residents' and friends' comments, we requested that the following views were taken into account.

Before the event

- Restrictions on access to the park to be kept to an absolute minimum.

Format, size and scale of the event

- Cast iron reassurances regarding numbers that satisfy the emergency services (so, fenced, gated and ticketed, and adequately staffed by security personnel/stewards).
- Robust arrangements for dealing with people who arrive without tickets – this also implies that all publicity relating to the event is explicit regarding the limitation on numbers and the fact that it is ticketed.
- Adequate number of portaloos, proportional to the scale of the event.

Protecting the park and immediate surrounding environment

- No glass is taken into the park (security personnel/stewards at all the entrances ensure that this is enforced), or

- No broken glass left in the park - cast iron reassurances required regarding this. This must be achieved by last thing Sunday evening.
- No items of rubbish left in the park or surrounding areas. The clean-up should begin as soon as the event finishes and should be comprehensive and completed the day after the event. The aim must be that on Monday, the park should be fully operational - cast iron reassurances required regarding this.
- No damage to trees - cast iron reassurances required regarding this.
- No trampling the flower-beds, either in the main part of the park, or the walled-garden or the Rock Garden.
- No people going into the wildlife and pond area near St. Peter's Church
- No overnight camping in or along side the park, including within the avenue of trees on the Eastern boundary. Security personnel/stewards to enforce this.
- Relevant security personnel/stewards to protect private property in the vicinity of the park, to at least a quarter mile radius. Local people have a right to be protected from trespass, urination and anti-social behaviour.

Compensation for disruption and inconvenience

- donation to the FoPP or tree planting?

Next steps

Pride was very respectful of our views and further discussions will take place as and when the proposals are firmed up and shared more widely.