



Clissold Park User Group meeting minutes Nov 2025

Attendees (that signed in)

1. **Officers/Reps:** Alexandra Hamit (Chair), Daphne Steele (Dogs Rep), Richard Crawford (Biodiversity Rep), Amir Dotan (History Rep), Emily Robson (Children and Young Person Rep), Lucy Carter (Running Rep), Yvonne Hill (Fundraising Rep), Sally Hall (Park Animals Rep), Isabelle Gore (Website rep) and Margaret Renn (Café Rep).

Park users: Cllr Fliss Premu, Betty Manning, Julie Ibbott, Cyndi Diamond, Andrew Hudson, Shelagh Prosser, Martha Powell, Ann OCallaghan and Oksana Mallett.

2. **Apologies:** John Hudson (co Vice Chair), Paul Brenells (over 60s), Cllr Sade Ettie, Hilde Oord (Fundraising Rep)
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Circulated and approved.
4. **Chairs Report**

Café

Alexandra updated the group on her meeting with Mat at Fink's, regarding low cost items, discounts and feedback. Senior discount terms questioned. More discounts to be added to menu including NHS and jobseekers. Wasteful energy usage at Clissold House, lack of handrail on main steps and incorrect information for access displayed on brass plaque at back door.

Action: CPUG Café Rep Margaret Renn to get details on senior discount and other schemes. Alexandra to look into brass plaque removal and energy usage at Clissold House. Clissold councillors Fliss Premu and Sade Etti to look into handrail at steps of Clissold House.

Cycling day of action/E-Bike campaign

Group discussed consultation and possible repercussions if plans are approved. Residents at Clissold Road and Green Lanes entrances of the park expressed current and historical concerns and gave reports of pedestrian and cyclist altercations. Park users reported further anti social incidents involving cyclists inside the park.

Action: Alexandra to set up mailing list to send out proposed dates for meeting.

Biodiversity

Biodiversity Rep Richard Crawford has submitted the CPUG response to the London Local Nature Recovery Strategy,

and invited Hackney Parks Biodiversity Officer Cassandra Li to talk at the next CPUG meeting on 10th January 2026.

Action: Richard to inform Alexandra when a response is received from Cassandra.

Self Closing Gates

Update from Hackney Council Project Manager Bruce Irvine given to group and assurance that CPUG's comments on self closing gates, have been fed through to the prioritisation process. New playground design will include self closing gates.

Action: Alexandra to continue to ask for updates on 3 year tender for park walls and fences.

Park Animals

Group heard that the council currently have no plans to house goats in the park, or do anything with the enclosure area, but that they would let us know once discussions start.

No further action required.

Defibrillator

Still awaiting word from Park Rep Georgie Brown, on make and model of defibrillator required.

Action: Georgie to inform Alexandra when a decision has been made.

Playground Renovations

Consultation on the space was expected in autumn 2025 but is yet to be published. It will include opportunities for users of the play area to feed their thoughts on what is currently good, what elements are less successful and how that space could be improved. Self closing gates will be part of the design.

Action: CPUG Children and Young Persons Rep Emily Robson, to ask for a realistic timeline for consultation and works.

Rose Garden/Fencing

Park management are pleased that CPUG would like to help maintain the area and Park Rep Georgie Brown will look into ways this and the true to scale map, can best be achieved.

Action: Georgie to update Alexandra.

Prohibited Action Signs

Alexandra has asked for an update on design flaws on the council plastic banner signage on railings, but is yet to receive a response.

Action: Alexandra to follow up.

Paddling Pool Area

Fencing and lack of signage flagged to park management. Question on why area cannot be made into a re-wilding zone until a permanent use is allocated. Question on why there needs to be another consultation on the space.

Action: Alexandra to liaise with Richard and park management.

Litter Picking

Instead of reducing the frequency of the picks, park user Oksana Mallet has offered to host the events when Alexandra is not available to do so, meaning the picks will continue to be held on the last Saturday of every month, excluding December.

No further action required.

Park Keepers Lodge

Cllr Sade Etti reported to the group, that the lodge will be used for staff welfare facilities, while the depot undergoes refurbishment. During this time, the council will consider the future of the lodge..

Action: Sade to feedback to group as plans progress, and highlight the importance of the User Groups participation in the decision for the future of the lodge.

Rough Sleeper

Rough sleeper has moved to Butterfield Green.

Action: Sade Ettii to update group on the situation.

5. AOB

CPUG Signs on gates

Alexandra noticed posters for CPUG events are being removed from the gates by staff, and has flagged this with Park Rep Georgie Brown.

Action: Georgie to notify Quinten and feed information through to park staff.

Quote for noticeboard repair

Alexandra informed group that she has asked for a quote for a new board and plexiglass for the park noticeboard, to better display CPUG events, as there are currently no funds for it in the councils parks budget.

Action: Once a quote is received, group to review costs before any works are planned.

Leaf blowers

Request for electric leaf blowers in the park, as petrol models create excessive noise and fumes.

Action: Alexandra to enquire.

Duck ramp

Park user reported that one of the ramps is at an angle which renders it useless to the wildlife.

Action: Alexandra to notify park management

6. Key dates

Clissold Park Litter Pick

Saturday 22nd November 2025 at 10am

Meet in Rose Garden

Next CPUG Meeting

Saturday 10th January 2026 at 11am

New River Room, Clissold House

Contacts

Park Keepers

020 8356 6834.

This connects to a mobile so please leave a message.

Café Management

Fink's London

info@finks.co.uk

Clissold House Venues and Events Officer

venuehire@hackney.gov.uk or call 020 8356 5505

Head of Leisure and Green Spaces:

lan.holland@hackney.gov.uk

Hackney Council Cabinet Member for Parks

caroline.woodley@hackney.gov.uk

Police

020 8721 2923 or 07879 603 106

Clissold.snt@met.police.uk

Clissold Safer Neighbourhood Team

020 8721 2923

To join Clissold Park Users Group

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