

Friends of Hedgemead Park
Minutes of Committee Meeting
Monday 19th October 2020
Held via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions

Taking part: Graham Groom (GG)(Chair), Caroline Groom (CG)(Minutes), Nigel Pollard (NP) (Treasurer), Edwina Vardey (EV), Julia Sherwen (JS) until 19.24hrs, Nick Tobin (NT) until 19.16hrs. Apologies for absence: Joan Rotheram		
Agenda item	Key Points	Action/follow up
1. Welcome	Graham welcomed everyone to the first meeting since March 2020, held prior to the Covid 19 lockdown. He had also sent out a Briefing Document prior to the meeting to update the committee and this was agreed as helpful.	
2. Minutes of Meeting 11th March 2020	EV noted her surname incorrectly spelt. CG apologised and will amend. Minutes 11/03/2020 approved	
3. Updates included in Briefing Document sent out prior to meeting	3.1 – 3.3 Feedback and questions from committee: Green flag: Awarded for 2020, but GG confirmed that process will be repeated for 2021, the award year usually running from April. Do not yet know when, or how comprehensive the assessment will be. Benches: Two Victorian style benches installed last year to left of bandstand, and two further had been expected 2020/21. Need to check. NT asked about contributing to dedicated bench. Jane Robson previously confirmed this cost £1000+ for a 10 year dedication. Damage to benches reported when identified and usually repaired promptly. GG has previously offered volunteer help to clean and repaint remaining benches in park, with paint supplied by BathNES. HPF Noticeboard: EV re painting legs black to match board. NP & GG – can remove notice board from legs to paint properly. Should not need BathNES approval Tree trail: Progressing well. National Lottery have extended deadline for spending grant to August 2021 (previously December 2020). David Alderman, National Tree Register volunteer, visited Hedgemead Park, and provided very informative tour attended by GG, NP, & EV. Initial map showing the eight “notable” trees on display on HPF noticeboard.	JSh JSh EV to lead

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3 Continued: Updates related to Briefing Document	GG working enabling trail area on HPF's website including map and tree information accessible via QR code. NP keen to get labels in place on trees. Printed leaflet has not progressed yet Naming of paths/areas of park: GG has approached BathNES but no feedback yet. All agreed that useful for identification purposes, but to avoid a lot of new signs. Suggestions made – putting names on back of benches, a plan in the HPF noticeboard. 3.4 Treasurer's report: NP reports 38 members so far. Since report circulated, NP has now sold 18 copies of the calendar. GG looking for ways of increasing membership numbers: Agreed that would not breach data protection guidance if committee members were aware of membership names to avoid duplication. No other details need to be shared. Membership forms available during gardening sessions and given to passing members of the public. Offer poster promoting HPF for local churches to display Use social media, e.g. Next Door. GG posts on Facebook and Twitter Local Residents' Associations Article in Local Look, perhaps when Tree Trail launched Newsletter to put through letterboxes Calendar good for promoting HPF Fundraising: GG – asked committee to think of ways of raising funds for ongoing expenses. Have received funds via various one-off grants, but attached to specific criteria for spending. Would benefit from funds available to spend as HPF wish. Fund raising easier for tangible activities, e.g. bench painting Fundraising event/activity in 2021: Unclear about Covid-19 position for 2021 and whether another fete or concert would be possible. EV – perhaps a performance that could be viewed on Zoom NP – no Christmas Market in Bath 2020, but BathNES interested in ideas to replace. NP suggested having part of park, probably from London Street, illuminated for period of time around Christmas, using power from lamp posts. No objections voiced – NP would need to explore with BathNES.	GG & NP NP & GG NP All All NP

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4. HPF's Objectives 2020-21	Discussion and questions: 4.1 Trees: Labels and artefacts to be placed in trees. Tree labels need to be accessible by public following trail. Artefacts best placed out of reach and therefore risk assessment required by BathNES – GG completing. To approach local contacts who might be competent and insured for working at height to advise/help. 4.2 Gardening: Lansdown Road entrance – parks team have planted up and are maintaining. London Road entrance – HPF have planted seeds and bulbs to enhance wild flower strip Continue to work alongside parks team to catch up on work since Covid-19 shutdown Volunteer gardening dates in HPF noticeboard, twice a month on Sunday and Tuesday. Will continue during winter as able. GG 4.3 Infrastructure: Water supply – No progress since source identified near fountain. Possibly from culvert. Not responsibility of Wessex Water. BathNES show little interest. No idea of cost involved. 4.5 Heritage: Battlement/tower – Some concern about ivy removal, but this is necessary for assessment/survey of stonework, and also some concern from surveyor that it might be compromising the wall. Trees team need to remove ivy as involves working at height.	EV and CG to identify trees for artefacts GG CG JSh GG
5. AOB	No other business	
6. Next committee meeting	Discussion re meetings. Constitution requires 4 meetings plus AGM. Agreed 2020 extraordinary year due to Covid-19 restrictions. Therefore next committee meeting mid January, and then one further before AGM in April. Meeting concluded at 19.45	GG to do doodle poll