

Friends of Hedgemead Park (HPF) Annual General Meeting

Thursday May 13th 2021 at 18.30hrs

Held via Zoom due to Covid 19 restrictions

Chair: Graham Groom

Number of people attending: 21

Agenda Item	Key points
1. Welcome	Graham welcomed everyone to the meeting and checked all familiar with using Zoom. The procedure for voting on the two tabled motions was explained (item 7).
2. Committee members	The HPF Committee Members introduced themselves: Graham Groom (Chair), Nigel Pollard (Treasurer), Caroline Groom (Secretary), Nick Tobin, Edwina Vardey, Julia Sherwen, and Joan Rotheram
3 & 4. Chairman's report	Chairman's report Power point presentation by Graham. Key points: HPF constituted 2 years ago to work in accordance with the HPF constitution to: • Maintain and improve amenities and infrastructure • Protect ecology & diversity • Plant for air quality and succession • Organise volunteering and community events • Promote history & heritage of the park • Provide a community voice Always need to remember the park is owned by BANES, and HPF work alongside Overview of year: • Currently 48 members, 42 individual and 6 group members • 1000 hours of volunteer activity (despite Covid) • Recognition of BANES Parks Team's work • Park looking tidy and well maintained Achievements: 2020-21 • Tree trail completed with thanks to the National Lottery for providing small community grant • Wild flower areas – meadow area leading down to London St entrance, and the roundels in area opposite St Swithins have been worked on and planting increased, in addition to ongoing maintenance in the park to assist the Parks' Team • A dedicated HPF noticeboard courtesy of funds from our 2 local councillors, Richard Samuel and Tom Davies. • Interpretation boards about the history of Hedgemead soon to be installed • A Calendar and a Book of the History of HP both conceived and produced by Nigel Pollard

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3&4 cont.	• Social Media presence via Website, Twitter and Facebook • Networking with other park's friends groups and with the Bristol & Bath Parks Foundation • Contribution to the Green Flag Award, awarded again for 2020-21
5. Treasurer's report	Nigel Pollard presented financial statements for 2020/21 Current balance: £1,086.39 <i>The report will be published under "Documents" on the HPF website: hedgmead.org</i>
6. Objectives for 2021-22	Trees • Install 2 bird boxes, plant sapling to replace fallen tree Gardening • Bluebell meadow/shady woodland bed • Develop bed at London St entrance Infrastructure • Cleaning & painting benches; one more new bench • Painting London St entrance gates • Water supply for horticultural use Community Engagement • Campaign to increase membership and volunteers • Offer Tree Trail experience to schools • Maintain list of birds observed in park Heritage • Liaise with B&NES on survey/remediation of Battlement & Tower
7. Motions 1 & 2 Proposed changes to constitution	Details of proposed changes sent to attendees prior to AGM Vote open to members of HPF, with 1 vote per individual members, and 3 votes per group members. Each group had a representative at the meeting. Total of 31 available votes. Two thirds majority required to pass motion. Motion 1 Proposer: Edwina Vardey Seconder: Caroline Groom Section 2. Aims – paragraph d) Propose text is reworded and split into two paragraphs: "d) to promote the preservation and conservation of planting to help reduce air pollution;" "e) to promote succession tree planting for the benefit of future generations;" Vote: For = 31, Against = 0, Abstentions = 0. Passed Motion 2 Proposer: Graham Groom Seconder: Nigel Pollard Section 5. Governance. Propose insertion of new paragraph at b): "b) Members elected to the committee will serve a maximum of 3 years after which they can stand for re-election at the AGM;" Vote: For = 31, Against = 0, Abstentions = 0. Passed

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8. Q&A and discussion	Jeremy Dymond, Play and Community Development Officer at BANES attended the meeting and thanked HPF for their contribution to Hedgemoor Park. Updates from Jeremy: • A new handrail to be installed on path leading up/down to London St gate • Interpretation boards may be installed in June • When the survey by World Heritage Enhancement Fund of the battlement/tower is carried out, other retaining structures in the park may be surveyed but cost/urgency must be assessed by BANES An installation by students from Bath Spa University will be in place weekend 21st – 23rd May. HPF Aileen Lyons is supervising Local museum Bath @ Work has an exhibition including 55 images of Hedgemoor Park, put together by Nigel Pollard, and curated by Stuart Burroughs Nick Tobin updated re measures to manage antisocial behaviour in HP. He will continue to liaise with Community Police Officer. Public can report via 101. Fly tipping continues at bin by battlement. Ongoing problem, and general agreement that bin could be removed as there are two other bins nearby. Jeremy Dymond will take back to site manager. Hetty di Rooj will supply contact details of member of Bath Natural History Society who will offer supervised bird walks in parks. Nigel Pollard has contacted Avon Wildlife Trust re bug identification walks.
9. AOB	No further business. Graham thanked all for attending. Meeting closed at 1952 hrs