

Friends of Hedgemead Park
Minutes of Committee Meeting No 1 2022-2023
Tuesday July 19th at 6.30pm at 1 Upper Hedgemead Road

Present: Graham Groom (GG) Chair, Nigel Pollard (NP) Treasurer, Caroline Groom (CG) Secretary, Nick Tobin, Edwina Vardey, Clare Rosier

No apologies for absence

Agenda Item	Key Points	Action
1. Welcome	GG welcomed Clare Rosier to her first meeting. Introduced to committee members	
2. Minutes meeting 15/03	2.1 Approved 2.2 Matters arising – all actions carried out	CG to send final minutes to committee
3. Updates since last meeting	3.1 Communications – EV asked if number of “hits” on Social Media are recorded. Not at present CR asked how public are aware of HPF – discussed latest leaflet drop. Membership increased after this, partly due to online application now available. To continue to distribute leaflets in local businesses – Harvest Supermarket to be added Some members sign up to news posts on email – 34 currently on list 3.2 News & Activities: <i>Following Jeremy Dymond's redundancy</i> as liaison between BaNES and Friends it is unclear how role will be covered. Paul Pearce and Jane Robson BaNES Parks Team covering some aspects. Your Park Bristol & Bath will also take on some of the role and are applying for CIL money to fund some training and support. <i>London Street entrance:</i> No change – Paul Pearce has suggested repairs may happen towards end of the financial year (i.e. April 2023). Jane Robson had enquired with Property Services re removing gates and pillars temporarily to allow access. <i>Water supply:</i> Analysis of water supply near fountain confirms it is mains water. Wessex Water have discovered an old stop tap outside No.2 Caroline Place, which is thought to be the source. They have raised a work order to replace this stop tap with modern plastic version. If Parks were to install a stand pipe nearby inside the park boundary, WW would then be able to lay a short length of connecting pipework. Paul Pearce is, in principle, supportive of this. This is the closest we have been to establishing a water supply for horticultural purposes in the park and is encouraging.	GG to f/up NP NP to contact Jane for update

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	3.3 Treasurer's report: Individual membership now at 78 (up from 39 last year) and there are 8 group members = £590 revenue, plus donations of £151. Revenue from recent reprint of History of Hedgemoor Park at £174 (some commission of around 40% payable to the bookshops). Bank balance currently stands at £1500 (including monies brought forward).	
4. Discussion topic	4.1 Sculpture for the park: A local resident has offered a fountain sculpture of a cherub holding a bowl to Hedgemoor Park to show his appreciation of the park. He made this some time ago and it has sentimental meaning for him. However it does apparently require some repair before it could be installed. NP has met and discussed with him. Whilst the committee are grateful to him for offering the sculpture there were a few reservations. • The fountain could not be made to function • It requires a vertical wall for mounting and there are few suitable sites in the park. The wall in the children's play area suggested by the sculpturer is not suitable • It would be vulnerable to vandalism • Jane Robson has not been approached and it is not clear whether it would be accepted by Parks Dept., or how installation and possible repair would be financed. The committee was sensitive to his wish to donate a piece of his work but did not feel that it could support it. NP (and EV if he wishes) offered to see him again to explain the decision.	NP
5. HPF Objectives 2022 - 23	5.3. Infrastructure: 5.3.3 Painting of Lansdown Street gates to be removed from objectives as extensive repair work needed Objectives approved by committee – previously circulated. All agreed it was important to have objectives renewed each year.	
6. AOB	NP is keen that the 120 years since the opening of the area of the park above the green flag (and including the Vegmoor site) should be marked. After discussion the committee favoured the potential replacement of the rather shabby and ill-matched benches with Victorian style ones as recently installed elsewhere in the park. It is possible that the Parks Dept may be able to provide another bench. NT suggested also approaching the Bath World Heritage Enhancement Fund (BWHEF) GG heard today that the BWHEF have allocated £5000 towards the restoration of the battlement and tower. Green Flag awarded again this year, although official announcement embargoed until July 26th	GG
7. Next meeting	Early November. Date to be arranged using Doodle later in the year. Meeting closed at 8pm	GG

