

Friends of Hedgemead Park
 Final Minutes Committee Meeting No 3 (2022-23)
 Tuesday March 7th 2023 at 6.00pm, at 1 Upper Hedgemead Road

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

No apologies for absence

Agenda Item	Key Points	Actions
1. Welcome	GG welcomed everyone	
2. Minutes meeting 06/12/22	2.1 Minutes approved. 2.2 Matters arising Social media – GG starting to question value of social media posts. Time consuming with little feedback or obvious benefit. Will continue for now. CR – could a DofE Gold award student help with posts? Submit photos? GG unsure whether their time-limited placement with HPF would be long enough for them and HPF to benefit. NP – could Your Parks repost some of HPF posts?	GG to consider options
3. Updates since last meeting	3.1 Communications – discussed as above. 3.2 News & Activities <i>SN Scaffolding company</i> have damaged the flower bed at the Lansdown Road entrance for the second time. Paul Pearce has followed up with the owner of the property adjacent to the park who contracted the scaffolders. <i>Volunteer gardening</i> – team preparing the lower half of the Friends' Garden (previously Vegmead) for planting/sowing flowers for Summer colour. <i>Rustic shelter</i> – Recently removed graffiti from frame, but painted ceiling cannot be cleaned, and council graffiti team do not remove from painted surfaces. Painting over entire ceiling needed. Need to explore with Parks Dept. <i>DofE volunteer</i> – HPF first experience has been very positive, and we have interest from other students. <i>Wessex water grant</i> – Project completed by GG with some financial assistance from Parks Dept via Paul Pearce to top up grant. Case study completed and will be uploaded to HPF's website.	CG to follow up GG to post case study on website

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3. Updates since last meeting, continued	<i>Merchandise from fallen Holm Oak</i> – merchandise has not sold well. David Gladden made items at short notice without much time to be creative. He is happy for suggestions for other items. NP – working on idea of a design featuring the Camden Elephant motif visible on Camden Crescent GG – wooden spoons/bowls CR – other items eg. Tea light/candle holders Ideas to be passed on to David. <i>Your Park Bristol & Bath</i> – a charity created to promote the benefits of parks and open spaces and to fund-raise for targeted initiatives. YPBB has won funding for two posts to support ‘friends of parks’ groups in the area. The organisation recently ran a ‘get-together’ in Bristol to recognise the efforts of volunteers and to run informational breakout sessions. GG & NP attended. 3.3 Treasurer’s report Cash balance £1650. (Two expenses not recorded at time of meeting) Discussion about fund raising – need money free of encumbrances entailed with bidding for funds.	GG & NP to follow up
4. Discussion topics	4.1 Your Parks Bristol & Bath – ‘Parks 4 All’ Initiative EV has completed a first draft of information needed for YPBB’s Accessibility Template, and has encountered a few challenges. Reviewing Hedgemoor Park for the project has highlighted how many challenges there are for people with disabilities. Committee thanked her for her great work so far. CR will continue but all contributions from the committee welcome. 4.2 New membership year Retaining members and recruiting new may be challenging this year. Trifold Membership leaflet drop and doorstep chats were very effective last year but this year the focus will be on printing an A5 handbill for a letterbox drop to cover both membership renewal and informing recipients about the AGM date and venue. Hoping this will be low cost and effective in encouraging membership sign ups and volunteering. Dog walkers use park a lot. Could we encourage a representative to join committee? CR – perhaps engage them with ‘Dog of the Month’ – photo on noticeboard. Walcot Street has number of independent businesses – may be some scope for group membership. Tri-fold leaflet numbers low now. A replacement would need minor updating. Purpose and print quantity to be decided. 4.3 AGM 2023 in April/May Suggested date May 25th (May 12th in 2022) at St Swithins crypt if available. Discussion re format – brief review of the year and updates, followed by encouraging ideas/suggestions from attendees about what they like about the park, improvements they would like to see, and any	CR & all CG to draft flier for distribution early April CG to research Walcot St GG to approach St Swithins and contact Park’s Dept to invite representative to attend AGM

	fundraising ideas. Decided against offering refreshments at meeting but perhaps invite people to join some of the Committee at The Star after the meeting. All current committee members confirmed their intention to stand for re-election again next year. HPF's objectives to be reviewed for next year.	CG to review objectives
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5. HPF's 2022-23 objectives vs achievements	5.1 Trees CG has not received any response from her December email to Sally Crudge re tree planting in HP. We have confirmed she is still working with Denise Hart 5.2 Gardening/landscape Work on the Friend's Garden continues with the addition of a woven hazel/willow border 5.3 Infrastructure One of the directors of TR Hayes has contacted council re. one, possibly two, benches for the area below the Friend's Garden to be dedicated to his late father 5.4 Community Engagement As discussed under Item 4	CG to follow up
6. AOB	NP – Secret Hedgemead – an idea for a trail in HP featuring aspects of the park, e.g. the battlement and tower.	NP to explore further
7. Next committee meeting	Committee agreed to try for a date in July 2023. Meeting closed at 19.30hrs	GG – Doodle poll