

Friends of Hedgemead Park

Final Minutes of Committee Meeting No.1 2025-2026

Tuesday August 5th at 5.30pm at 1 Upper Hedgemoor Road

Present: Graham Groom (Chair) GG, Nigel Pollard (Treasurer) NP, Caroline Groom (Secretary) CG, Claire Rosier CR, Lily Hughes LH, John Wayman JW.

Apologies: Edwina Vardey

Agenda Item	Key Points	Action
1. Welcome	GG introduced new committee members Lily Hughes and John Wayman and welcomed all to the meeting. Apology for absence by EV noted.	
2. Minutes Meeting No.3 (4 th February 2025)	2.1 Minutes approved 2.2 Matters arising: Poor state of railings and sign at LR entrance, and missing bench reported to Mali Kedward (Volunteer Co-ordinator) on February 5th who will refer to appropriate people at BANES. Use of bandstand as rehearsal space for musicians: CR: Use rather restricted by noise levels for those living near park. NP: could discuss possible time slots with local residents - perhaps EV could consult with local residents association. No Mow May: GG & JW discussed with Colin Hall and mowing adjusted. JW says unmown area for the orchids was perhaps wider than needed, but 7 Pyramidal Orchids were seen. The mowing of the main area makes the roundels look much better. Lloyds Bank/CardNet payment system: Has worked well for online membership applications. GG to put QR code in noticeboard for 'one-off' donations to park Green Space network: CG has put together list of useful organisations/support for volunteer groups and will circulate to other volunteers for comment/additional suggestions. Planned Tree maintenance: CG wrote to tree team again and received no response, but lime tree growth removed from lower part of trunks today. Anti-social behaviour and drug dealing: Police remain aware of issues. CG questioned whether there is any further action HPF can take beyond that of local residents in reporting/actioning. Engaging with local nursery: Check with EV if any news to report	CG to follow up CR & EV GG CG CG to check
3. Minutes AGM 2025	3.1 CG apologised for typing error and confirmed that John Wayman's nomination for the committee was indeed supported unanimously!	CG

	3.2 Matter arising: All agreed that the meeting worked well in the less formal setting of the Honey Café and with some additional topics of interest about the park.	
4. Updates since last meeting	4.1 Communications: Nil of note to report 4.2 News & activities: 2025 membership currently 104 (96 individual, 8 group) 63 were renewals, 41 new this year. Your Parks - communication in July from Tasha Machin following up on the accessibility project EV & CG completed in 2023. Unfortunately, Tasha is no longer in post so not clear if any further action will be requested. 4.3 Treasurer's report: Membership subscriptions: £735 plus additional donations at sign-up of £502. NP's history book as made a profit from sales, only a few books left. No reprint at present - assess demand. Agreed to keep promotional information on noticeboard and website. Funds carried forward as at 31/07/25: £4081.12	
5. Discussion topics	5.1 Insurance renewal: BANES offers limited insurance cover for volunteers but also advise having our own public liability insurance. Current insurance is with Markel. GG proposed renewal as seems to adequately cover for public liability and HPF volunteers. Premium £100.80, no increase from last year. Committee approved 5.2 Relocation of London Road Planter to HP: Councillor Oli Henman responded to CG request for update. Historically HP land subject to landslips. Planter is very heavy so a geotechnical engineering firm may have to drill boreholes to assess suitability of suggested site, including risks, potential problems, whether planter would be free-standing or secured. CG has replied to Oli questioning whether the cost of the engineering assessment, in addition to the cost of transferring the planter into the park, and installing it is a rather expensive solution to the problem of its current position. She asked if no suitable location, could it be auctioned for charity? CR asked if it could be made clear in the minutes that this project was not the choice of HPF. However, if it is transferred to the park the friends gardening team will plant it up as perhaps a sensory bed. Await developments 5.3 Gardening in the park: GG paid tribute to John Wayman and Kevan Horne for their ongoing inspiration and work in the park and highlighted the successes. JW asked about his experience and hopes - the wildflower roundels and meadow originally planted by Avon Wildlife Trust and the site formally known as Vegmead have been taken over by the friends' gardeners to great effect. A lot of work, so with the small number of gardeners available other areas of the park have had less attention. However, plan to extend the planting up of raised bed behind and to the left of the bandstand when bindweed clearance completed.	GG CG JW
6 & 7 AOB and Next Meeting	6. No other business 7. Next meeting: November 2025, GG to send Doodle poll nearer time	GG

	GG thanked all for attending. Meeting closed at 7pm	
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