

Minutes of Committee Meeting No.2, 2025-2026
Monday November 24th at 5.30pm
At 1 Upper Hedgemoad Road, Bath

Apology for absence: Lily Hughes LH

Agenda Item	Key Points	Action
1. Welcome	GG welcomed all and noted LH apology	
2. Minutes of meeting No 1 Tuesday August 5th	2.1 Minutes approved 2.2 Matters arising: CG followed up re missing bench - council have noted that the footings are not secure for the benches alongside the bandstand and will keep bench safe bench until this is addressed. Nothing to report about possible renovation of railings/gates at Lansdown Road entrance. QR code for one-off donations: GG added to all noticeboards in park Encouraging use of bandstand for music/activities: EV noted someone exercising in bandstand using music, but quiet, so unlikely to be a problem for local residents. Maybe return to this idea in the spring. Relocation of London Road Planter: No news. CG to stay in touch with Oli Henman	GG CG
3. Updates	3.1 Communications: One post on HPF website. GG - few posts on social media as doubtful benefit 3.2 News and activities - key items: Two gardening awards : Bath in Bloom - Silver-Gilt in ‘Horticultural Achievement by a Community Group’ category, and Britain in Bloom/RHS South West ‘It’s Your Neighbourhood’ Level 5 - Outstanding HPF has joined Sarah Skeels’ Community Nature Haven linking gardens and green spaces across Lambridge and Walcot. Phase 4 Battlement wall repairs: GG reports no news and fears momentum/funding lost 3.3 Treasurer’s report: Funds carried forward: £3,870.39. Noted that charges now in place for Lloyds Bank/CardNet system, but benefits outweigh costs. Treasurer’s report will be posted on website.	GG to post

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4. Discussion topics	4.1 Trees: EV led discussion on succession project to research and plant trees. Soil samples taken from 6 areas in park showed ph 7-7.5 which helps to guide choice of trees. After discussion, current plan: 1. Consider planting a Rowan at London St gate adjacent to notice board, and 2nd Rowan or an Alder at Coalbrookdale gate (Paragon). 2. Consult local suppliers to check availability and cost - e.g. Old Sodbury Tree nursery 3. Funding initially from HPF account but may crowd fund if needed - likely to be popular with local residents. 4. Consult with BANES tree team - approval will be needed, and tree ‘passport’. GG thanked EV for all her work so far. Mali Kedward has been liaising with the Tree team on HPF behalf and has offered to continue this as needed. 4.2 Gardening: JW -much to do in the park, volunteers do what they can with fortnightly sessions. Discussion: 1. Keep fortnightly dates but add ad hoc sessions as needed for specific tasks and put on gardeners’ WhatsApp group/email 2. GG and JW to visit park and assess as far as possible the work to be done and let gardeners know what to expect before each session. 3. Approx 100 crocus corms planted last week, donated by council. “In the green” native bluebell bulbs will also be arriving to be planted in the spring, to enhance the current woodland bed. 4. Bathscape have offered to help with gardening tools. GG has requested some shears. JW suggested a spring rake too for raking arisings after the meadow cut. GG to add to wish list. 4.3 2026 Membership drive: GG asked committee for ideas for promoting membership of HPF ahead of new membership year on April 1st. Approx 50% of friends renew each year. GG & CG estimate that the mailbox drop yields about 10% positive response. Committee agreed to continue with letterbox drop but vary appearance of the leaflet. Same size (A5), less of the green, new striking, bright photograph. Less words, more impactful statements focussing on HPF’s unique role and achievements. Gardening, litter picking, tree trail are good examples and noted by the public. Keep things simple - last year the CardNet system well used and whilst the cost of membership is kept at £5, optional donations are popular. GG also would like more group members. Plan: 1. CG & GG to check membership addresses against roads covered in drop. 2. GG to check current printing cost for 1500 leaflets.	EV, CG, GG GG to follow up GG & CG

4. Discussion topics continued...	3. GG & CG will put together draft of leaflet and send out to committee, but welcome any other suggestions that committee may have for how to make maximum impact. NP asked about redesigning and printing the original HPF trifold leaflet. GG agreed HPF needs an updated information leaflet about their work in the park, separate from membership maildrop. Due to time limitation at this meeting, for discussion at another time, but before next committee meeting. 4.4 2026 AGM GG keen to establish outline for 2026 AGM. After discussion agreed: 1. Honey Café as a venue worked well this year, partly because café kitchen remained open for refreshments at beginning of meeting - if possible, at this early date, we need to check how this could work next year 2. Dates - end of April suggested. Will not clash with Easter or school holidays. 3. Format for meeting - positive feedback to keeping 'AGM business' to minimum and having a couple of talks related to the park. To consider topics and presenters. External speakers could be approached but may not be keen to attend for short presentation.	CG & GG plus input from all GG, NP & CG to meet & discuss CG to follow up GG to follow up
5. Any other business	Replacement artefacts for tree trail: Several have been lost over the years. EV has researched and listed artefacts and identified appropriate trees. Cost discussed and approved. Damaged fencing at Upper Hedgemead Road (UHR) boundary of Camden Meadow: NP who serves as treasurer for Camden Residents' Association (CRA) reported from their latest meeting. CRA hold some money given by local councillors some years ago towards cost of replacing fencing with railings. Several ongoing difficulties have stalled this, including lack of money available at council to add to fund, concerns about security with railings, and discussions about fencing v railings in a conservation area. CRA committee intend to set up a working party to discuss funding for and action to replace fencing. Camden Meadow is BANES land, historically worked on partly by the Parks Dept, and partly by local volunteers. It cannot be accessed by the general public and is separate from Hedgemead Park. The committee members present unanimously agreed that HPF could not be part of this project. CG offered to join the working party as a local resident of UHR, but not in HPF capacity.	EV to liaise with GG re purchase NP to feed back to CRA committee
6. Date of next meeting	Early February - GG to send range of dates after Christmas GG thanked all for attending. Meeting ended at 7.10pm.	GG to send dates