



## **Poole Park Forum**

*The purpose of the Forum is to share information, learn from each others' experiences and work together to make Poole Park better.*

**Minutes: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017, East Gate Lodge, Poole Park.**

### **1. Welcome and introductions.**

Apologies: Cllr Howell, AJ Windsor, Naomi Preston

Present: Cllrs Stribley(AS), Garner-Watts(AGW), Hadley (AH); Mike Heckford (MH), Pat Lincoln (PL), Graham Sutton (GS), Pete Godding (PG), Phil Baker (PB), Mike Pearce (MP) Martin Whitchurch (MW), Toni Powell (TP)

### **2. Round the table updates from each organisation**

AGW – consider impact of the plans for Town Centre North on Poole Park. Discussion followed on links between the spaces and important to consider parking, access, pedestrian and cycle links etc.

GS – Railway has been very successful following opening before summer holidays. Volunteer run and 16,000 tickets sold in first season (<3's free). FoPP congratulated on this success.

PL – Railway will be operated as a Community Interest Company (CIC) FoPP to be Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

PG – Volunteers have been kept busy and great official opening of Quiet garden on 27<sup>th</sup> Nov.

GS – Quiet garden has attracted lots of support, praise from users of the railway. Noted that additional volunteer numbers have been attracted by working on a specific project. GS suggested linking future gardening projects into the railway where possible. TP & GS to discuss further.

PB – Use of bowls pavilion for short mat bowls in winter months

MP would like to set up an open spaces sub-group/committee as over-arching place for formal groups to discuss open spaces

### **3. The HLF project**

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Toni Powell | Poole Park Life Community Engagement Officer

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- **Project updates, focussing on the capital work next year and activity plan.**
- **Programme**
- **Current lines of work: East Gate lodge, Tender for conservation features, tender for sluice bridge**

MW introduced various updates:

- Working to satisfy the planning application conditions, which include detailed discussions with Natural England and various colleagues on proposed works to the lagoon.
- Tender out for a Conservator for works to restore historic features in the park. Should appoint a contractor either side of Christmas and works start from April 2018. This links to a grant application to the War Memorials Trust for improvements and restoration of the War memorial and surrounding area.
- Tender to be let in the New Year for a replacement bridge over the sluice channel. However, timeline is dependant on network rail and they need to provide various approvals.
- Further research undertaken, including student placements from Bournemouth University as well as further specific research in the lagoon to inform the planning conditions work.
- MW introduced a draft programme of works and activities and this was discussed with a focus on 2018 activity. This programme will be made available as a calendar on the [website](#) in January, allowing all communications with members, public and stakeholders to be directed there for updates and information.
- TP updates: successful art exhibition in the summer, volunteer led and this will return in 2018 alongside a broader family Funday event. Other work in 2018 will focus on the old swimming pool site, working with Chestnut Nursery volunteers, the Rose garden and the usual garden volunteers programme.
- Only Rain Down The Drain campaign was discussed, highlighting to locals the need to be careful with what goes in to the surface water infrastructure, then ending up in the lagoon. Commented on that this needs a careful PR message and communications. AGW, AH commented on the need for Borough wide information to improve the situation across the Harbour.

Discussion followed:

GS – presence of algae and seems less in recent years. MW commented on flushing regime and better understanding of the whole system, but huge environmental variables mean we never really know how much algae there will be.

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Programme well received and felt to be useful in understanding what comes next.

#### **4. AOB – events, happenings and other park information**

AS – Traffic management in and around the park was raised. Suggested closing Key-hole bridge to be one-way inward to Poole Park only, diverting exiting vehicles through Twemlow/Orchard Ave area. It was suggested this would slow vehicles and reduce numbers driving through the park.

One suggestion was to close Key-hole bridge altogether and use for pedestrian access only to avoid any conflicts between general traffic and cyclists and pedestrians. It was felt that this option should also be explored.

MW commented for need to undertake a review of traffic in the Whitecliff area in order to assess this and would need to be led by transportation colleagues. Generally this received good support around the group, AH commented that one-way roads tend to increase speeds. GS suggested a trial period.

AH – referenced Community Infrastructure Levy neighbourhood portion and whether we have considered its use in the Park. PL commented FoPP are interested.

PL – has had contact with a student group who want some practical tasks, TP to assist with bulb planting.

***Thanks for everyone's time.*** Minutes to be published on the website in due course.

**Next meeting: Weds 7<sup>th</sup> March. 5pm East Gate Lodge**

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Organisation	Contact
Portfolio Holder	Cllr J Rampton
Parkstone Ward:	Cllrs Stribley, Williams, Challinor
Poole Town Ward:	Cllrs Garner-Watts, Howell, Hadley
FoPP	Mike Heckford Michael Collins Pat Lincoln
FoPP Miniature Railway	Graham Sutton
Poole Park User Group	Naomi Preston Laurie Croad
Gardening Volunteers	Pete Godding
South Coast Caterers	Martin Bell
Rockley Watersports	AJ Windsor Pip Woods
Poole Model Yacht club	Roy Cane/Pete Wiles
Poole Park Bowls club	Phil Baker
Chestnut Nursery	Angela Mansbridge
Poole Town cricket club	Nick Williams Jo Pilley
Club 21	Jane Martin
Zoofish Arts	Richard Jeffrey Rachel Huggett
Parkstone Bay Assoc.	Mike Randall Ken Bearcroft
Mini Golf	Tony Unsworth
Wessex orienteering club	Alan Cooper
Poole Wheelers	Ros Spencer
Poole Runners	Mike Towner
B&PCFE	
PHP	Gail Percival Clare Sutton Sandra Wilson
BiPolar UK	Hazel Clifton
BoP Rec & Devt	Chris Dear
Park Run	Mike Cure Diane Storey
Junior Park Run	Jenny Trayford
Transition Poole	Felicity Rice Kate Salter
W. Hampshire modellers	Barry Thomas
The Society for Poole	Mike Pearce
Land Train	David Edwards

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