



## 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 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018, East Gate Lodge, Poole Park.

#### 1. Welcome and introductions (See full invitation list below)

Apologies: Cllr Challinor, Naomi Preston, Laurie Croad

Present: Cllr Stribley(AS), Mike Heckford (MH), Pat Lincoln (PL), Graham Sutton (GS), Pete Godding (PG), Ken Bearcroft (KB), Jaime Hunt (JH), Jane Martin (JM), Hazel N (HN), Hazel Clifton (HC), Martin Whitchurch (MW), Toni Powell (TP)

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

- JH - Out and About Dorset Ltd introduced herself and her company who have been successful with their bid for a lease of East Gate Lodge. [Out and About](#) support adults with learning difficulties and will use the Lodge to support their clients, enabling a range of work in the park and with other organisations. They are fully supportive of the organisations using the building and will offer community use where possible, for example evening meetings.
- GS – Miniature Railway operating and doing well, open weekends from Feb half term and daily from Easter. 2 ½ days this week on track repairs near the station and laid to a high standard. 50+ volunteers involved in driving, ticket sales and maintenance. Aspirations to secure a steam loco. General comments from around the table at how well the railway has done and its importance.
- KB – discussed plans relating to Harbourside Park and links to Poole Park, particularly with regards to parking and traffic.
- JH – Out and About, clients have been litter picking around the park and offered to help undertake other volunteer activities. They also have transport available to take clients off site.
- MH -FoPP focus has shifted to the railway in recent times
- PG – The garden volunteers are working well, usually 15 people at each session and recent focus has remained on the Quiet garden.
- JM – Gave an overview of Club 21: 20+ years working in the lodge, operate thurs evenings for about 20 people, Saturdays for up to 30, aged between 20 and 60 years old. Members are adults with learning difficulties and are all local, there is an emphasis on the social element, including day trips and holidays. It is entirely volunteer run and they always need new helpers.

#### Contacts:

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Toni Powell | Poole Park Life Community Engagement Officer

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- HN – gave an overview of Bi-Polar UK: Meet first weds of each month 7-9pm and provides support that isn't available anywhere else locally. Usually have 10-20 people attend, all volunteer run.
- PL – reiterated the success of the railway and plans for FoPP to work with the College, University and local organisations to help improve the park.
- AS – Commented that it was great to see such support for the park and the local community within the Forum. Raised traffic and parking issues that led to discussion round the table.

### 3. The HLF project

MW talked through various updates:

- Request to discharge the planning application conditions has been submitted, this means works within the planning application will formally be able to commence once signed off.
- A contractor, Brian Hall Conservation Ltd, has been appointed to undertake conservation works to restore historic features in the park. This links to a successful grant application for £31,280 to the War Memorials Trust for improvements and restoration of the War memorial and surrounding area. Works to start in April, guided walks etc to be a part of this work.
- The work to replace the bridge over the sluice channel continues with discussions with Network rail to assure them there is no risk to the railway line and construction can safely take place. Once Network Rail approval is secured, procurement can take place to get contractors in place, works likely to take place in the Autumn.
- There have been lots of changes to the parks team recently and new structure and staff in place, with a greater emphasis on training and horticultural quality.
- In February we launched a new calendar of events and activities on the project website (<https://pooleprojects.net/pooleparklife/>) , if you want to know what is happening, next works or events take a look at the calendar [here](#).

TP updates:

- Garden volunteers. We will be siting a tool store, compost bin and watering cans etc so that volunteers can work on the Quiet Garden outside of the organised sessions. Next task will be at the Old Swimming pool site (near the subway to Baiter) with support from Chestnut Nursery.
- Rose Garden work is starting as well. The roses, which are mostly diseased and old, will be removed and this year wildflower seed put down as a temporary measure. Plans will then be developed through the year for the new design of the garden.
- Regular groups of College volunteers are helping in the park.

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- Only Rain Down The Drain campaign will take place over the next few months, more info to be released soon.
- Art exhibition will take place again on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug. Volunteers and ideas welcome to support how this event can grow. ZooFish arts will be holding an event on Easter Monday to kick-start the art event.
- The Information Kiosk is to be managed by BoP again, with FoPP still able to use the kiosk, but with it being used more to pass on information about the HLF project.

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

PG commented on the impact of the boulders at Copse Close and how it will help deter travellers.

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

**Next meeting: Weds 6<sup>th</sup> June. 5pm venue tbc**

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## Invitation list:

| 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     | Nick Davis                                |
| 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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