



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 5th September 2018, East Gate Lodge, Poole Park.

1. **Welcome and introductions.** See back page of minutes for those present (P) or who gave apologies (A).

2. Round the table updates from each organisation

- FoPP: Fundraising ideas were raised, linking to training, small businesses and events in Poole Park.
- Soc. for Poole. Looking to integrate across Poole's parks and open spaces and promote/support each other
- Rockley. Over 8,000 people on the water this season, very successful year.
- PBA. Request for information on current FoPP situation and a date for the next meeting. Discussion followed on requirements for a meeting and there will be one by the March 2019 under the terms of the constitution.
- Garden Vols. Volunteers have been busy starting work on the old swimming pool site and information kiosk. Nick Davis (SCC) said how good a job the vols do and the high quality of the quiet garden.
- Facebook user group. Jude introduced the new admins and their local history and interests. MW commented on where the user group originated from and how its there as a public group and the Poole Park Life project can supply information to share to it.

Graham later added comments about using council information to inform group members. As a former volunteer on the railway, discussion was then raised about the previous night's scrutiny committee and decision for the Council to take the railway operation in-house with associated funding. Discussion followed on use of volunteers, upgrades to the track and likely operations. MW advised that volunteers would be kept involved and more information would follow in due course.

Mike Pearce stated the importance of the railway and its heritage significance Cllr Challinor reiterated it is a statement of intent from BoP.

- Bi-Polar group. New members continue to come along each month. Commented on some difficulties working in East gate lodge.
- South Coast Caterers. Nick reported that there has been 3 break-in's recently, have alarms and CCTV fitted. Various other comments:

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- Small beach areas near the Kitchen are smelly and unsightly. MW later advised these will be filled in as part of the lagoon improvements with boulders.
- Praised volunteers for their work
- Parking issues with the bowls club were discussed. During their annual tournament Nick raised various issues concerning access to the park and priority parking. MW advised that next year it is imperative all users meet in advance of the tournament to agree what controls will be in place.
- Planters behind the Ark were mentioned and who has maintenance responsibility? **MW to discuss with parks team and feedback.**
- Toilets. Westfield were recently flooded and out of action. Could the bowls club offer the pavilion toilets under the Community Toilet Scheme? Can The Kitchen get any financial support as part of the community toilet scheme? **MW to action and feedback.**
- Cllr Challinor. Introduced his role as portfolio holder for a range of services including Communications. Poole News has been re-launched and includes Poole Park War Memorial on the front cover for the autumn edition. MW commented that a range of events are being planned around Remembrance Day, including: the annual parade, beacon lighting ceremony at Baiter Park and events related to the improvement works around the War Memorials.

3. The HLF project, updates focussing on the capital work (Martin)

- **Sluice bridge and path closure.** From November the bridge over the sluice channel will be replaced. Contractor is currently designing a bridge made of Fibre reinforced plastic (FRP). Second contract out to tender for contractor to demolish the existing bridge, restore brick piers and install new bridge.
- **Lakes and Lagoon tender.** Tender is currently live for a contractor to dredge the lagoon and lakes, create new islands and other features, landscape in and around the freshwater lakes. Works will take place between November and March 2019.
- **WM works.** Improvements are underway to resurface around the memorials, provide a new path in from Parkstone road and install new coping on the rose bed planter.

4. Vols and Activity plan (Toni).

- **Fun Day on 2nd Aug** was a great success; need more volunteers to help at these type of events in the future.

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- **Garden improvements.** Started work on the old swimming pool site on Park Lake Road with volunteers. Chestnut Nursery are helping while their new building is constructed.
- **Rose Garden.** Design work is taking place and sessions are being planned for consultation with people to discuss the garden of memories and reflections
- **Information Kiosk.** Volunteer groups helping with painting and improving the building. Will create new displays inside and looking for volunteers to help staff it.

5. AOB – events, happenings and other park information

- **Graham** – asked about messages on feeding bread to birds. TP said this would happen next year; this summer the Only Rain campaign was successful but we didn't want to overload public messages. Also ties in to the improvements in the lakes and lagoon.
- **Cllr Challinor** – has met with the College principle and had positive discussions about the impact of students on the park. MW added that we have a new point of contact with the College and will be meeting soon.
- **Mike Pearce** – discussed what does success for the park look like? Interested in satisfaction and user data. TP commented on Counts days and the information generated for the HLF monitoring, including surveys and questionnaires. TP to publish and make available. Michael Collins added that there is also a mental health value and this should be considered.

Martin and Toni thanked all for their attendance and contributions.

Next meeting will take place:

Wednesday 5th December 2018 at 5pm, East Gate Lodge (with mince pies!!)

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Organisation	Contact	Present/ Apologies
Portfolio Holder	Cllr J Rampton	
Parkstone Ward:	Cllrs Stribley, Williams, Challinor	P
Poole Town Ward:	Cllrs Garner-Watts, Howell (A), Hadley	
FoPP	Mike Heckford, Michael Collins, Pat Lincoln	P
Poole Park User Group	Andrew Hawkes, Graham Tuffin, Judith Tuffin	P
Gardening Volunteers	Pete Godding	P
South Coast Caterers	Nick Davis	P
Rockley Watersports	AJ Windsor Pip Woods	P
Poole Model Yacht club	Roy Cane/Pete Wiles	
Poole Park Bowls club	Phil Baker	A
Chestnut Nursery	Angela Mansbridge	
Poole Town cricket club	Nick Williams Jo Pilley	
Out and About Dorset Ltd	Jaime Hunt	A
Club 21	Jane Martin	
Zoofish Arts	Richard Jeffrey Rachel Huggett	
Parkstone Bay Assoc.	Mike Randall Ken Bearcroft	P
Mini Golf	Tony Unsworth	
Wessex orienteering club	Alan Cooper	
Poole Wheelers	Ros Spencer	
Poole Runners	Mike Towner	
B&PCFE	Lloyd Perry	
PHP	Gail Percival Sandra Wilson	A
BiPolar UK	Hazel Clifton, Michelle	P
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	P
Land Train	David Edwards	

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