

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 June 2019, East Gate Lodge, Poole Park.

- 1. Welcome and introductions.** See back page of minutes for those present (in bold) or who gave apologies (A).
- 2. The HLF project, updates focussing on the capital work (Martin)**

Overview given of new BCP council, ward members and Portfolio Holder for the Environment, Cllr Felicity Rice. Provides a new context for parks management with new structures being put in place across the new authority. No foreseeable changes at present to parks staff.

Update on capital works: Access theme is coming forward which will improve the roads, car parks, footpaths and access for park users. Scheduled to take place from October onwards and through the winter. Putting in place an event plan for late summer to promote work and the impacts, including removal of some trees. Discussion followed on the policy of through traffic and whether there is potential to re-visit road closures and consider park use only – this will be discussed with the new portfolio holder and ward members to discuss previous trials and the options that could be explored again.

MW to update the next meeting with more detailed programme and impact of construction work.

Rose Garden and lakeside shrub planting with volunteers has been incredible and new landscape spaces are looking great – thank you to all those involved and the parks team.

2020 will see new play and fitness equipment installed; and also the water fountain refurbished

Beryl Bikes to launch in June, first wave of 50 bikes across BCP, Poole Park to host 3 bays, see [here](#) for more.

- 3. Round the table updates from each organisation**

- Pip, Rockley: Events offering free watersports sessions for young people take place mid-June. Plus Decathlon Watersports Festival on 6th July. Will be using trailer for next few weeks to help cover those events. Complaints regarding the trailer have led to the Council asking Rockley Watersports to remove it off-site. The trailer was removed, however Rockley are seeking to continue dialogue with the Council as they feel the trailer is needed as well

Contacts:

Martin Whitchurch | Poole Park Life Project Manager

Tel: (01202) 261323. M.whitchurch@poole.gov.uk

Toni Powell | Poole Park Life Community Engagement Officer

Tel: (01202) 261757. Toni.Powell@poole.gov.uk

as being important as a viewing platform for the safety of those out on the water.

- Cllr LJ Evans: Recently joined as Councillor for Poole Town ward. Interested to learn more about Poole Park Life and meet groups/people working locally.
- Graham/Jude, user group [facebook page](#): Over 1,000 members, there is an increase in people posting on the page, happy to post for people if they forward over. Planning to review the registration process for those joining the page to perhaps simplify the process.
- Pete, gardening vols: Volunteers have been busy planting around 6,000 plants around the fresh water lakes. All ages attend from aged 4 upwards! Have worked extra sessions as well on their own over the bank holiday weekend to do more mulching. Lots of positive comments from the public regarding the planting. Received a round of applause from around the room!
- Michele and Hazel, Bi-Polar UK: Group is going well. Had frustrations in not receiving regular invoices for rent payments from Out and About. This makes it harder to keep track of payments and they would like communication to improve. (TP gave copy of new EGL door key to Hazel)
- Kit Pearce, Healthy Walks: Kit is a leader for Poole Park walks, every Thursday morning 10.30, start and finish at The Ark, with a hot drink at the end. GP's refer people to take part. There is a good attendance, with people of all abilities including people with blindness.
<https://www.walkingforhealth.org.uk/walkfinder/poole-healthy-walks>
- Kate Salter, Transition Town Group: Keen on looking at ways in which traffic and cars can be less dominant in the park, including closing the park to through traffic. There was much discussion on how this could be done. Meetings are due to take place between BCP Officers and local Councillors regarding this issue. In the future MW and TP would like to consult with the group regarding different options. Kate was also keen to explore nature based activities within the park, to be discussed further with TP.
- Phil, Bowls Club: A major bowls tournament is taking place during 21st to 26th July. Expect to be very busy, especially at the start of the week. However feels the bowls club can cope with parking and plans to avoid any issues such as those that occurred in the past. In September of this year, one of the bowling greens is being dug up and re-laid. TP suggested that Phil liaised with MW to help avoid clashes with access works taking place around the same time, just in case.
- Brett, tennis: free tennis Sunday sessions are going well and are well-attended. Struggled with accessing Poole Park to drop off equipment and with users being able to park, during Poole Running Festival. TP suggested asking for a contact and tel number for the event organiser, so that access to

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the park can be arranged before the event takes place. Rockley stated that they do not operate during this event, as the festival tends to take over the park, but do not see this as a problem.

4. Vols and Activity plan (Toni).

- Garden volunteering continues to go well with good numbers and around 6,000 plants placed around the fresh water lakes. There were many additional sessions arranged and the volunteers worked very hard.
- Around 14 stalls have confirmed for the Fun Day on Thursday 25th July. TP passed round posters for stakeholders to help promote the event. Wish to include stakeholders and need lots of volunteers! Activities will include sports games, arts & crafts, climbing wall, circus skills, lagoon island tours and wildlife games, as well as information on changes that have taken place as well as planned improvements for the future.
- A celebration event for the Rose Garden will be held on Saturday 6th July, 2pm to 4pm. This will include making paper roses, information on planting, writing memory postcards and recording people's stories about the park.
- Only Rain campaign, including what to feed birdlife, is to be launched with information and survey monkey link posted out to local residents. The pavement painting just outside the shops opposite the Civic has been refreshed, and likewise will do the same with wording around the drains in and outside of the park.

5. AOB – events, happenings and other park information

- Poole Park Fun Day, Thursday 25th July, 10am to 3pm
- Rose Garden Celebration Day, Saturday 6th July, 2pm to 4pm

Martin and Toni thanked all for their attendance and contributions.

Next meeting will take place:

Wednesday 2019, 5pm, East Gate Lodge

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Organisation	Contact
	Present in Bold , Apologies (A)
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Felicity Rice (A)
Parkstone Ward:	Cllrs Stribley (A), Baron
Poole Town Ward:	Cllrs LJ Evans , Howell, Hadley
FoPP	Mike Heckford, Michael Collins, Pat Lincoln (A)
Poole Park User Group	Andrew Hawkes (A), Graham Tuffin , Judith Tuffin
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
Out and About Dorset Ltd	Jaime Hunt
Club 21	Jane Martin
Parkstone Bay Assoc.	Mike Randall
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
BiPolar UK	Hazel Clifton, Michelle
Park Run	Mike Cure, Diane Storey
Transition Poole	Felicity Rice, Kate Salter
W. Hampshire modellers	Barry Thomas
The Society for Poole	Mike Pearce
Land Train	
Healthy Walks	Kit Pearce , Viv Grear
Tennis	Brett Townsend

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