

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 4th March 2020, 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. Overview of Access theme works in Poole Park**

Martin talked through the purpose of the Access works, timelines and likely impact on park users. The works will

- make the park more accessible, with friendlier crossing points for pedestrians
- slow vehicles down making it harder to drive through the park
- remove highway features like the roundabout and reduce the amount of tarmac surface
- provide new lighting all the way along the carriage drive and from the cricket pavilion to copse close.
- install new drainage and resurface roads and paths to prevent local flooding issues
- remove 32 trees and plant 51 new trees along the drive and nearby areas.
- resurface the southern half of the cycle track and improve the drainage around the cricket pitch to the freshwater ponds
- resurface access to the Lodges
- remove infrastructure such as metal knee-rails and open up garden spaces for public use with new benches.

A draft programme was shared and has been attached to the covering email. This is subject to change as the contractor orders materials, understands the impact of works, park events and the construction required.

From Tuesday 14th April the park will be closed to vehicles from the Seldown entrance and through various phases the park will be closed to through traffic until July. However, through these phases there will always be park access and the contractor will accommodate deliveries and access requirements as much as possible. Individual meetings with stakeholders can be arranged as required.

Contacts:

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Toni Powell | Poole Park Life Community Engagement Officer

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3. Other Poole Park Life updates

- Play areas are currently out to tender and will be replaced this year. Hazel reiterated the need to include zip wires if possible.
Some discussion on the merits of equipment for disabled users, in particular those in wheelchairs. MW confirmed that the specification states that the designs shall be fully inclusive and the whole space is to be designed for a wide variety of needs. The tender is open to all suppliers.
Discussion on where equipment will be manufactured and if this is specified as UK only. This is not the case as a lot of metal equipment comes from Germany and timber from Scandinavia.
- A tender is also being developed to provide new signage, notice boards, way-finding and interpretation. The latter element is time-consuming to detail and get right in order to tell the story of the park's heritage without adding unnecessary clutter.
- The Plant Collector's garden is being developed with a volunteer working on historical research and designs being drawn up. Works to develop what is the old putting green garden will develop in the autumn.
- The **Poole Park Family Funday is Thurs. 23rd July** – please add the date to your diaries and support this event if at all possible. NOTE – this is now subject to change.

4. AOB – events, happenings and other park information

Graham reported 1,268 members on the Facebook User group page. Good and healthy level of activity.

Discussion on geese management in the park and their impacts.

Likewise on Gulls and if their numbers are increasing. Ecology is being monitored following the lakes and lagoon works in 2019.

Question was raised about Friends of Poole Park and their absence from the Forum and from any public activity, with an AGM is overdue. MW has been trying to meet with FoPP.

Thank you!

Next meeting will be confirmed once the COVID-19 situation is clearer and we are able to meet again. In the meantime please look at the Poole Park Life [website](#) for updates or get in touch if you would like us to share your information.

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| Organisation | Contact |
|-----------------------------|---|
| | Present in Bold , Apologies (A) |
| Portfolio Holder | Cllr Felicity Rice (A) |
| Parkstone Ward: | Cllrs Stribley, Baron |
| Poole Town Ward: | Cllrs LJ Evans , Howell (A), Hadley |
| FoPP | Michael Collins (A), Pat Lincoln (A) |
| Poole Park User Group | Andrew Hawkes (A), Graham Tuffin , Judith Tuffin |
| Gardening Volunteers | Pete Godding |
| South Coast Caterers | Nick Davis (A) |
| Rockley Watersports | AJ Windsor (A) Pip Woods (A) |
| Poole Model Yacht club | 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 |
| Parkstone Bay Assoc. | John Challinor (A), Eunice Marsden , Peter Steer |
| Mini Golf | Tony Unsworth |
| Wessex orienteering club | Alan Cooper |
| Poole Wheelers | Ros Spencer |
| Poole Runners | Mike Towner |
| B&PCFE | Lloyd Perry (A) |
| PHP | Gail Percival, Sandra Wilson |
| BiPolar UK | Hazel Clifton , Michelle |
| parkrun | Sarah Swift(A), Mike Cure |
| Transition Poole | Kate Salter |
| W. Hampshire modellers | Barry Thomas |
| The Society for Poole | Mike Pearce (A) |
| Land Train | |
| Healthy Walks | Kit Pearce, Viv Grear , Mary |
| Tennis | Brett Townsend (A) |
| Recreation development team | Katie Azulay |

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