



**Minutes of Friends of Hamworthy Park CIO
Annual General Meeting
held on 27th October 2021**

Charity No 1175089

Trustees: Pat Bullock, Stan Chatterton, David Harris, Ann Smeaton, Karl Stokes, Renee Clarke

A warm welcome was extended to everyone and the Trustees introduced themselves. Members were reminded that it had previously been agreed that each year an AGM would be held in April and a Members Meeting in October. However, due to the Covid virus, it has not been possible to hold a public meeting since October 2019 – so this meeting is to be an official Annual General Meeting. Henceforth, it is proposed that the Members Meeting is held every April at which the Annual Report and Accounts for the Charity Commission will be discussed and hopefully approved and the AGM will take place in October each year.

1. **Apologies:** Manuel Perez, Reg Baldock, Marilyn Chatterton, Tony Barrett, Cllr Julie Bagwell and Cllr Mike White
Cllr Daniel Butt attended just a little late.
2. **Minutes of last AGM** held on 11th April 2019 were discussed and approved
3. **Matters Arising** – all matters arising related to the Informal Discussion Section of the AGM. These were duly noted and agreed would be discussed fully after the formalities of this AGM were completed.

4. Financial Report

SC, Treasurer, gave an in-depth explanation of the Financial Reports that were pinned on Boards around the room. Financial Reports for 2020 are on the FOHP Website within The Annual Report and Accounts 2020 that were submitted to the Charity Commission.

The following is the Financial Report for 2021 up to 26th October.

**FOHP Financial Statement
for the period 1st January 2021 to 26th October 2021
MAIN ACCOUNT (unrestricted Funds)**

Balance carried forward: £18,080.66

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Donations	623.56	Administration	215.10
Sales	1,117.25	Projects	1,611.16
Calendar Sponsors	<u>350.00</u>	Fundraising costs	<u>753.00</u>
TOTAL	2,090.81	TOTAL	2,579.26

Expenditure over income = £488.45

Balance at 26th October 2021 = £17,592.21

Funds held as follows:

	£
Reserve Account	16,284.24
Current Account	943.53
Cash	<u>364.44</u>

TOTAL 17,592.21

PADDLING POOL ACCOUNTS
Balance carried forward: £1971.43

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Bank interest	0.23		0.00
		Balance at 26 th October 2021:	£1999.64
		Funds held as follows:	
		£	
		Current Account	0.00
		Reserve Account	1,971.66
		Cash	<u>27.98</u>
		_TOTAL	<u>1,999.64</u>

Hopefully, the paddling pool will soon be in a fully finished state – so the remaining £1999.64 could then be utilised in the refurbishment of the wall surrounding the paddling pool

- Chairman's Review of Park Matters:** As PB (Chair) was too ill to attend, SC read the Report that she had prepared. This Report is attached.
- Election of Trustees:** As per Charity Commission regulations, each year two Trustees must stand down, but can be re-elected - on a rolling / longest serving basis. At the last AGM Stan Chatterton and Ann Smeaton stood down. At this AGM, Pat Bullock and Dave Harris are standing down, but are willing to be re-elected.

Jane Clark proposed that they both be re-elected
Debbie Giles seconded the proposal.
All attendees agreed unanimously with the proposal.
So PB and DH were duly re-elected as Trustees.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Paddling pool

Much debate centred around the saga of the paddling pool and the funds that were wasted.
Why was the drain incorrectly placed too high so that the pool can never fully drain with the result that there is always a mucky puddle within the pool?
Cllr DB to contact Mark Anderson, Environmental Services.

The sealant continues to sink into emptiness – leaving a right-angled hard edge of concrete on which children are cutting their feet.
This is a safety issue.
Is the company which built the pool aware of the problems? (WSP designed and Earcoat built).
The issue needs to be resolved now. Not just a few days before the pool is due to be opened next summer.

Sewerage

There is a nationwide problem of sewerage being ejected into waterways. The Hamworthy peninsular is greatly affected by this process (Rockley and Holes Bay).
Cllr DB advised that Council is concerned and is endeavouring to mediate before taking any legal action.
FOHP needs to bring the matter up again.

Shelter in the Paddling Pool / Play area

£1,651 remains from the funds donated by the Coop to create shade within the padding pool / play area. There is a very nice 'seat with a canopy' installed at Whitecliff Recreation Ground. This SC would like to investigate to see if he can find a manufacturer's name, but unfortunately Whitecliff Rec currently is all fenced off.

Repainting of the Paddling Pool Wall

This is now urgent. Some stones are loose. Earlcoat provided two very expensive quotes, but we did have quote of £4,500 from a local business. FOHP was happy to pay for this work, but Council Officers messed the firm about so much that it got fed up and pulled out.

Cllr DB will endeavour to progress this matter.

Erosion at the Eastern End

Unless something is done, the Eastern end of the park could disappear. Sea water sometimes reaches as far as the bridge over the railway (Park to Harbour Reach) and corrosion is now very evident. In order to address this state of affairs, it was proposed (some three years ago) that a row of big boulders be installed close to the water's edge.

FOHP were advised that rocks are available. In order to carry out the work, a licence was obtained by BoP.

Unfortunately, we are now informed that a new licence needs to be obtained on behalf of BCP.

Cllr DB to endeavour to progress the matter.

Promenade

The promenade is subsiding. A large hole appeared and was eventually repaired. The promenade has been surveyed and it is understood that the situation is not yet bad enough for immediate attention.

Toilet provision

The toilets at Lake Pier are to be refurbished before Christmas.

The toilets in Hamworthy Park should be refurbished in the New Year.

Adult Play Area

The play area near to the Outdoor Adventure Centre has an 'Under 14's' sign. This should read 'Over 14's'.

Need to investigate.

Car parking in the Park

This has long been a contentious issue. Not everyone, not even many living on the peninsula, is fortunate enough to live within walking distance of the park. At one time plans were drawn up to move the car park to the lesser used area of the park behind the footpath between the original carpark and the café. The old carpark would be returned to grass.

The issue of school children walking to the park after school was debated, but could be resolved. The cost of moving the carpark currently is financially out of the question.

Pool Beach Hut Association

One of our FOHP Members attended a meeting of this Association. The issue of scooters and bikes travelling at speed was on the agenda.

Certainly, speeding bikes and scooters are a problem along Hamworthy Park Prom which until a few years ago had a large NO CYCLING SIGN painted on the western end.

Hamworthy Prom is narrow and cannot cope with beach hut users and speeding traffic. There is a serious accident waiting to happen

Cllr DB to look into matter.

NB - Everyone who owned a beach hut received a letter about the acceptable size of beach huts. Some huts protrude further than others – especially those with large dropdowns. When beach huts change ownership, the size would have to conform. Then along came Covid and beach hut owners have heard no more.

Style in fence around playground

A Member has observed dogs entering into the play area via this style. SC to resolve matter.

FOHP Charman's Report (Pat Bullock) October 2021

It is nice to be able to meet up again on what has been happening in the park. One of the major problems in the park has been the paddling pool. After all the funds that were ploughed into it, it is disappointing that it is still not right. The problem with the sealant has still not been solved despite several attempts to repair it.

'Pooling' is left when the pool is emptied caused by the drain not being in the lowest place. We have been told it is something that we are going to have to live with. (The children like it as they still have a shallow pool to play in, but it does get very mucky).

This Year's Projects

Three years ago, we were supplied with ten tins of paint and we started repainting the paddling pool/play area fence. Then we were told to stop as we did not hold the certification to operate the pressure washer needed to remove the algae and the Council workers would do it. We painted that which we had cleaned and had a great day when over thirty people turned out for a community painting day, but when more paint was required, we were told it was too expensive. So the Friends obtained a very good deal with Crown Paints and purchased a further 25 tins with brushes, pots and mats. Some six months later when a further stretch of fence had been pressure washed, we were able to continue but were held up again by weather and awaiting the Council to repair and replace 21 sections of fence adjacent to the prom that were rotted – mainly caused by a build-up of sand covering the base of the fence by up to 8 inches. You may have noticed the trenches that we dug out so the bottom of the palings could be cut off. It did not help matters when on several occasions rough-sleepers broke palings away to build their shelters and also when a complete section was removed to provide wood for a fire on the beach. We carried out a temporary repair and asked the Council if they could rectify it. Some twelve months later, that temporary repair is still there, but we will be replacing it soon. We gave up waiting for repairs and purchased some suitable timber to do it ourselves – repairing sufficient to hold another successful community painting day. Then we had another hold up when we ran out of timber and could not find any of suitable size. The Council have now supplied us with some, so work has restarted. Often, we have found the best way of dealing with the repairs is to make up a complete panel at home and then bring it down to the park ready painted for fitting. We thought this project was almost finished, but now think it is time to give another coat where we started three years ago!

There is not a lot of shade in the park and we often see people trying to use what little the young oak trees lie along the path where we cleared the 'sheep pens'. We thought it a good idea to thin the shrubbery in the eastern cops behind the beach huts and take advantage of the shade there. This was done over the winter. The Council wood-chipped the area and a park user provided a picnic table in memory of his late wife and the Friends provided two more. They have been much appreciated this summer, although we have had some problems when the vandals decided to re-site them and tore them apart in the process. Since pegging them down with more substantial fixings, it seems to have solved the problem.

For some years we have been unhappy with the bed adjacent to the Lulworth / Ashmore Ave entrance and when a kind lady offered us a donation in memory of her father, the Council agreed on an improvement to what was described as a shrubby mess. We started digging out the overgrown shrubbery and eventually some loads of soil were delivered. We had wanted to incorporate a few large rocks or a log but this was not approved. Fortunately, when a park user complained that it would be advantageous for travellers to gain access, this brought about a change of mind and rocks were delivered and now planting is almost finished. We are just waiting for some flowering column cherry trees that are due in November.

Apart from these projects, usual maintenance and minor repair work has continued, including

Litter picking
Dog poo picking
Cleaning picnic tables
Wild flower area
Café flower bed
Bulb planting (now around 10,000)
Blandford Road Planters

For this we must thank our Wednesday Volunteers. (A number of the also come along on other days). We also get valuable help from Muddy Boots Nursery – the champion bulb planters, the Tadpole Nursery and Good Gym a group of runners who regularly turn out to help us on Tuesday Evenings in summer.

Future projects that we are looking at to improve the park are:

Tidying up the area between the prom and play area, possibly paving.
The western copse - thin and install picnic tables
Paddling pool wall repointing
Promenade repairs
Eastern end protection