



**Minutes of Friends of Hamworthy Park CIO
Annual General Meeting
held on 19th October 2023**

Charity No 1175089

Trustees: Pat Bullock (Chair), David Harris, Karl Stokes, Eira Hill, Ian Fraser

Agenda:

- Minutes of the last AGM 12/10/2022
- Financial Report
- Review of Park Matters/projects
- Informal discussion

1. Apologies: Fiona Rainback (Treasurer), Deb Giles, Jenny Sharp, Rina Fraser, Counsellor Peter Cooper

2. Minutes of the last AGM: held on 13/10/2022 were discussed and approved.

3. Trustees: At every AGM, a third of the trustees must step down. David Harris and Karl Stokes stepped down. They were both then re-elected. Pat Bullock announced that she will be stepping down as a trustee at the end of the year.

FOHP can have up to 8 trustees and we are always happy to have new people onboard.

4. Financial Report:.

Provided by Fiona Rainback: I am pleased to report that despite spending out on some large ticket items this year our funds remain in good shape. This is no small part due to the generosity and support we receive from you, our local community, through donations and at the various fundraising events we hold across the year. Thank you.

It is worth highlighting at this point a number of the bigger projects to date this year over and above some of our usual annual spends:

- A defibrillator (£1211) has now been installed in the park.
- A play trail around the paddling pool (£3520.80).



- Improved signage around the park (£375.12) highlighting the contributions the FOHP make.
- Original Watkin Art (£1169.75). Design, artwork and printing of the FOHP retro posters and postcards. Credit for initiating these new promotional items must go to Eira Hill.
- Metal storage shed (£1279.20).

From an income perspective we have seen a significant increase from last year in the payments we receive via PayPal. Whilst some of the monies are regular monthly donations, the vast majority of our income across the past year via this route has been through card transactions at the various fund-raising events we've held. Offering the ability to pay by card has clearly proved very popular.

Additionally, our four main annual fund-raising events raised the following income:

- Easter Egg Hunt - £270.00
- Spring Plant Sale - £673.88
- Summer Fete - £2031.31
- Autumn Produce Sale - £118.52

A big thank you to all our volunteers and supporters.

Summary of Bank Accounts 1st January 2023 to 18th October 2023

Prepared for the FOHP AGM 19th October 2023

Main Account

Current Account £1376.70
Reserve Account £13340.59

TOTAL £14717.29

Paddling Pool Account

Current Account £0.00
Reserve Account £2014.23

TOTAL £2014.23

Cash and Unbanked Cheques

Cash £298.30

TOTAL £298.30



Items of Significant Expenditure (>£100)

Main Account

Paddling Pool Account

Defibrillator	£1211.00	No Expenditure
2024 FOHP Calendar Printing	£836.50	
Bulbs for Produce Sale	£153.25	
FOHP Annual Insurance	£181.15	
Sea Cadets (FOHP Summer Fete)	£200.00	
Signage	£375.12	
Play Trail	£3520.80	
Original Watkin Art	£1169.75	
Metal Storage Shed	£1279.20	

Items of Significant Income (>£100)

Main Account

Paddling Pool Account

2023 FOHP Calendar Advertising	£400.00	No Income
PayPal Card Payments	£1319.20	
Cash generated at events and via donations across the year	£3699.50	
Transfers from Reserve Account	£3300.00	

A question was raised regarding the counting of money after major fundraising events. In the past, the money has been counted and a total amount reported back to volunteers within 24 hours. In 2 cases in 2023, a total was not reported within 24 hours. Trustees acknowledged this and will endeavour to report a total after each fundraising event within 24 hours.

5. Review of Park Matters/projects

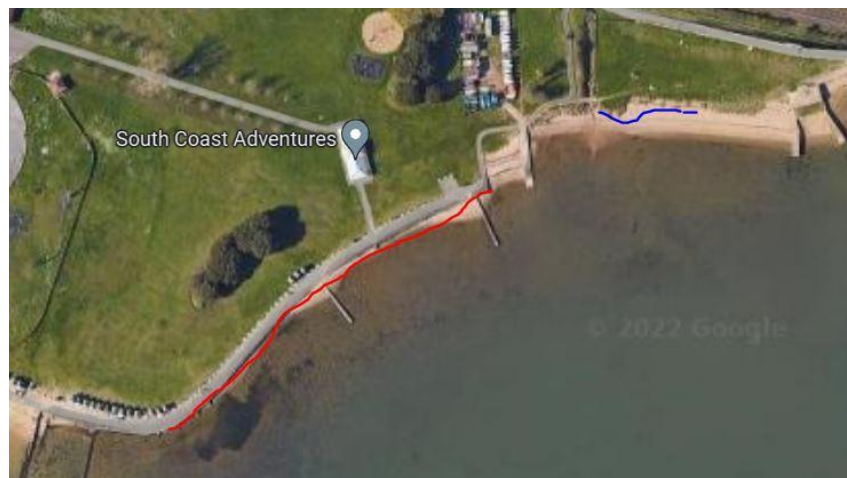
Volunteers have been pursuing the usual activities in the park: looking after the flower bed, litter picking, poo picking, and general maintenance. Some of the bigger projects have been spreading the bark chipping on copses, the installation of the new play trail, the new flag, and the shed.



6. Erosion and new sea wall project

We are happy to report that this project has been fully funded and is now in motion. It is going out to tender this week with the contract being awarded in early 2024.

In Spring 2024, 198m of the eastern end of the prom will be refaced with epoxy polymer concrete over a metal framework. This will have an expected life span of 20 years.



In less good news, the rocks to combat erosion at the Eastern end of the park are still not in place. The long delayed (5 years) project to get rocks in place on the eroding eastern end of the park is still waiting on a permit. This has been the case now for over 14 months.

7. Grasses against erosion

The installed seagrasses between the prom and the play area fence are growing well. Thanks to Ian for all his work in securing the fence that keeps them from being trampled by people and dogs. We will see through the winter how well they work at capturing sand, and can then progress to phase 2 of the project which involves creating a path near the fence.

8. The Paddling Pool

We have had numerous “tips” that the council is contemplating not funding the paddling pool’s operation in 2024. So far, we have been told “no decision has been made” but believe it is prudent to be prepared.



As such, we have asked how much answer given was £71,000 - contested. After a discussion at the AGM, it was decided to wait and see what happens as there is nothing we usefully do until we know what is going to happen.

it costs to run per year. The although this figure has been

9. Summer programme

FOHP ran a successful summer programme with over 600 parents and children attended in Hamworthy Park and Bluebell Woods. The programme was partly funded by Dorset Community Foundation and partly by FOHP. We will be looking to apply for a grant for next year to fund a similar programme.

It was noted that the Easter Egg hunt was also a big success.

10. Shed and base

FOHP have purchased a metal shed to keep volunteer tools etc in. We are in the process of having a concrete base installed. Once finished, it will make volunteer sessions much easier and easier to run by anyone, as all the equipment will be in one place.

11. Other park works agreed with park officer

We had a walk around with Rachel, the park's officer, to agree a programme of work to be carried out in the autumn period:

- Council workers will trim and sort out the beds at the Branksea avenue end of the park. FOHP to put some bark on the end nearest the Branksea Ave entrance as grass will not grow there. Middle part of the bed to be stripped of shrubs and laid to grass.
- Rachel will look into supplying some more paint for the fence around the paddling pool/play area.
- She will also talk to the arboreal team about adding more trees to the park.
- She has agreed for FOHP to put in some more wildflower patches by the footbridge and at Branksea ave end.
- She will reinstate the car park barrier when the clocks go back.
- Trim copse by the adult play area and create space for new benches in the shade.

12. Beach hut vandalism

After a spate of vandalism against beach huts, it became apparent that the owners were not reporting these incidents to the police. DH gave advice via the hut owners' Facebook group that they need to report all incidents to the council and the police.

13. Fundraising

The new posters are selling well and the calendars too. Well done to all involved.



AOB

14. Picnic tables

The council have removed one old and unusable bench from the play area, and will not be replacing it. BCP invited the Friends to replace the bench. FOHP have offered to bulk replace the other benches and the council has agreed. We are currently looking into getting concrete bases installed. 6 benches in total.

15. Santa Run

26th November, 8.00-11.00, there is a fun run starting from Hamworthy park. The Friends will have a promo table at the event.

16. Alternative funding

KS mentioned that with the current climate of reduced funding for greenspaces, we may want to start looking at alternative funding models. There is a park in Sheffield where they have a £1 levy on locals for the park.

17. Vote of thanks to Pat Bullock

Proposed by Karl for all her many years of community work with the Friends. Seconded by all.

19. Main flower bed

The roses in the main flower bed are getting old and leggy. They need replacing. Funds will be made available as needed.

20. Summer programme

We were asked if we could include something like a foraging session in the summer programme. We will look into it.

21. Dog signage

We were asked to investigate having better signage on the fenced in area gates. They should say that dogs are not allowed in the play area, as there have been a number of incidents recently. We will look into it.

A big thank you to everyone who came along.



CIO Charity No 1175089