



Friends of Hartley Park

Chairman: Mr Trevor Hargreaves
Tel: 770492

Treasurer: Mr HRM Clifton
Tel: 229799

Secretary: Ray Delamare
Tel: 260006

NOTES OF THE MEETING - 15 APRIL 2003

- The Chairman opened the meeting with a warm welcome to those “new” friends attending this forum for the first time. Apologies had been received from David and Rosemary Bradley and from Vena Shadick.

2. The notes following the last meeting held on 17 February 2003 were agreed and a simple review of the actions required showed that they had been concluded:-

- o The website: Dave Snell had got this up and running
- o The Press article: Christine O’Neill had input to Tom Palmer (Evening Herald)
- o Recruitment of secretarial support: Ray Delamare was present at the meeting
- o PCP – further advertisement. Michael Dax had actioned

3. The Chairman then displayed the recent articles from the Evening Herald with the headlines “Play Parks To Be Shut” (12 March 2003) and asked if either David Stark or Nick Jones if they wished to comment. Both were pleasingly happy to do so. David Stark outlined central government’s instructions to local government namely that they were required to concentrate on their statutory functions – and amazingly the funding of parklands was none statutory. Whilst his full briefing was lucidly conducted, these notes cannot cover the content fully. Nick Jones went on to explain the probing and scrutiny his department’s budget had been subjected to and this was probably the source of the press headlines. He re-iterated that monies were available in the revenue budget to maintain park playgrounds and, were capital monies to become available, Hartley Park playground improvements were high on the list. The Chairman thanked both for their kindness in providing an insight and, in common with others, underlined just how important their input was to a forum of this nature especially in the early days of activity.

4. The Treasurer explained that he had received £220 in income to date and that £68 had been expended. He answered questions on the account, how income had been derived and what expenditures had been met.

5. The Chairman invited open discussion. This ranged from police activity to reduce vandalism in the park through the ward sergeant, the numbers of rabbits (which had been raised formally with the council), the health and safety issues concerning the slide, which was inspected weekly by insurers, to contacting local park users and all the action points below.



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6.The agreed actions from the meeting were as follows:-

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| a. Produce these notes | TH |
| b. Publish minutes/notes on website | DS/Ray Delamare |
| c. Commence activity to produce a Lottery bid | TH/CO/BC |
| d. Approach South West Water for sponsorship | David Stark |
| e. All previous data on park use surveys etc. to be passed to Nick Jones | TH/former Secretary |
| f British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)
- details of their initiative to be passed to Chairman | Nick Jones |
| g. The provision of a notice board to be re-visited
(to be positioned at Reservoir Road entrance) | Nick Jones |
| h. Further ideas/input for press items to be forwarded | Christine O'Neill |

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 27 MAY 2003 7PM