

Notes from the meeting of the Friends of Hartley Park held at the Hyde Park Public house 7pm Tuesday 15/01/2008

Persons attending the meeting: Mr HRM Clifton (Treasurer), Mr Delamare (Secretary), Mr Tranter, Cllr Stark (PCC), Mr Goddard (Groundwork trust), PCSO McLaughlin (Police), PC Keeler (Police), Mr Maker (PCC Parks), Mr Johnson (PCC Parks), Mr Adams (Plymouth civic society), Apologies were received from: Mr & Mrs Duffield, Mrs Shaddick, Mr Hibbert and Cllr Fry.

1. Mr Clifton opened the meeting, and advised that, as this was the first meeting for some time, the business of an AGM should be taken care of. A vote was taken on the subject of the members of the committee carrying on in their positions for a further 12 months, this was carried unanimously. Mr Clifton also advised that the financial position of the group was unchanged. Mr Clifton put forward a request for any persons who would like to take the position of chairman to contact the Friends of Hartley Park.

2. Mr Maker detailed to work carried out in the park since the last meeting:

The walls adjoining Reservoir Road had been repaired. The sewer under the main path had been repaired. Through money received from the local area fund, the shelter had been demolished, and a new gate at the Higher Compton Road entrance had been installed, the remaining funds had been spent on two new benches, two new litter bins and one new dog bin, these had been positioned next to the children's play area in an effort to reduce the amount of litter in the play area, this seemed to be working. The fence around the tennis court had been renewed. A new goal area had been installed on the play surface. As a result of the efforts of PCSO Mc Laughlin, the store at the back of the disabled toilets has been transformed into the local area police office, and the floodlights for the tennis courts are being brought back into working condition.

3. PCSO Mc Laughlin said that she is arranging a competition with local schools to design two murals, one for the toilet/office building and one for the rendered area of wall where the shelter used to be. The designs will have to be approved by the council before they are painted. She also advised that money had become available from the community Police fund for two benches.

4. Mr Delamare said that a community flower bed had been suggested; everyone agreed that it was a good idea, a date of Saturday April 12th was set for a day of community action in the park to start at 10am. The council will attend, and the flower bed will be created and planted, if time allows, the walls of the toilet/office and the wall area will be painted in preparation for the murals to be painted. Mr Delamare said he would design a poster and send a copy to Mr Maker to promote the day.

5. It was suggested that a calendar could be made of the park for sale next year to generate funds for the park, Mr Delamare said he would take photos of the park each month in preparation for this.

6. Mr Maker said that there could be some section 106 money due to the park soon, as a result of local developments. This could pay for more new equipment in the park.

7. It was decided that representatives from the Friends of Hartley Park, PCC and the Police meet at the park at 3pm on Wednesday 23rd January to decide on the positioning of the new benches, the flower bed, and bird/bat boxes that will all be installed in the park soon.

8. It was mentioned that the local schools could plant bulbs in the park in the autumn, the council will supply the bulbs.

9. Mr Goddard said that there was a new fund for open spaces, and that when applications for grants were open, he would let Mr Delamare know, and advise with the application process.

10. Mr Delamare mentioned the damage done to the grass areas by council & contractors trucks. Mr Maker said he would look into getting a section of the main path widened to prevent this happening.

11. The next meeting of the Friends of Hartley Park will take place at The Hyde Park Public house, at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd April 2008.

The meeting was brought to a close at approx. 9pm, and the staff of the Hyde Park were thanked for their hospitality.

Notes from the meeting at Hartley Park on 23rd January 2008.

It was decided that one of the community benches be situated in front of the new mural on the site of the old shelter. The community flower bed will be situated next to this. The other community bench will be situated inside the playground on the opposite side to the existing one. All of the existing metal benches will be replaced with the new black ones. Bird & bat boxes will be installed high up in some of the larger trees. One set of goal posts will be installed on the lower field that borders Higher Compton Road. There will be a turning point formed by the children's play area for council trucks, to prevent the grass being damaged, and the grass will be filled and re-seeded. All of this work to be carried out as soon as possible, and by the end of 2008.