



Friends of Portwood Rec
Minutes of the Committee Meeting
Wednesday 9 September 2026 19.45 at 2 Holyrood Ave

Present: Linnet Evans (chair), Garth Long, Nigel Hodge, Bev Pearce, Denise Long.

1. Apologies

May Lindsey, Tony Ridley, Kat Barbour

2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of 1 July 2026

Two typos were corrected, item 3 name Dawn Bannatyne, and item 8 name David Light; the minutes were then approved

3. Matters arising

Bike racks – Field in Trust (BP). As an action BP had drafted an email to SCC about concerns that more cycle racks could be added compromising the Field in Trust. **ACTION GL** to ask Richard Kelly who this should be sent to. **LE** to review the draft.

4. Natwest Bankline

Update from (BP) The account had been reverified, statements will now go to NH. Admin address remains as BP

Agreed not to add additional signatories at this time. NH has now been added and ML has changed to view only.

5. Treasurer's update

NH, LE, GL had met re managing finances going forward. Discussion was had on what monies were ring fenced for payment of garage fees, meetings, insurance etc. The Gardening Budget for 2027 was agreed as being £350 plus potential calls if needed on surplus monies remaining from the West Solant Solar Cooperative grant. NH will reorganise accounts under major headings. **ACTION NH**

6. Grant applications inc defibrillator (BP)

Defibrillator Bid submitted awaiting outcome. No other current bids, awaiting outcome of Management Plan.

7. Gardening developments (DL)

Discussion on small wildlife pond – DL having preliminary discussions with Sophie (Environment Centre) and Jill Doubleday to consider progressing further. As previously agreed with Dawn Bannatyne will intend to survey park users and if supportive to test water quality and decide on location. No decisions have yet been made. **ACTION GL** to ask Dawn Bannatyne what constitutes a small pond.

Garden developments – DL thanked the Gardeners for keeping the garden and trees alive in challenging circumstances. A meeting of the Gardening Group will be held before Christmas to consider planting for next year. **ACTION DL**

8. Draft Management Plan (GL/LE)

Dawn Bannatyne and Richard have reviewed the plan and it is being progressed. **ACTION GL** to check on progress

9. Membership

Welcome letter – As previously circulated was signed off for use. This will be sent out to all existing Friends and Working Volunteers (**ACTION GL**) and be issued to new joiners. It was agreed that a way of doing this needs to be discussed with ML. **Action LE/GL to meet with ML**

10. Public survey (LE)

A first draft of a survey for park users encompassing, play, a pond, and other feedback had been circulated to the Committee who were undecided about whether the time was right to progress this. It was agreed to prepare a further draft separating the pond from a more general survey and await the confirmed Management Plan. **ACTION LE**

11. FoPR Kids (TR)

The sessions that had run had been successful but helpers were thin on the ground. The next session is scheduled for 10 October. LE/GL to meet with TR to discuss future strategy **ACTION GL, LE, TR**

12. Any other business

- Safeguarding – GL had emailed the Committee and extract from the SVS news indicating forthcoming changes to safeguarding which could affect us. Further consideration to be given. **ACTION All**
- Succession Planning – some of the Committee had met to consider some potential options but this now needs to be addressed by the full committee and a meeting will be scheduled in October.
- Play Park- The Zip Wire carrier has been removed and is awaiting repair

13. Date and time of next meetings:

- Committee Succession Planning – date in October TBC
- Public Meeting Wed 25 November 2026 19.45 (Scout Hut)