

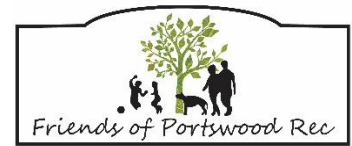
## **FoPR Minutes of Public Meeting of July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025**

### **Held at Scout Hut Brickfield Road 7.45pm**

**Attendees:** Garth Long (GL), Louise Anderson (LA), Denise Long (DL), Bev Pearce (BP), Tony Ridley (TR), May Lindsay (ML), Freida Stack (FS), David Freemantle (DF), Chris Freemantle (CF), Russell Smith (RS)

GL in the Chair

1. GL welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially new members DF and CF. He reported that PP had recently stood down as Secretary, recognised and thanked her for her contributions whilst in post
2. Apologies: Linnet Evans (LE), Pauline Prentki (PP), Councillor Matt Bunday, Councillor Katherine Barbour, Tara Ridley, Laila Ridley, Frank Stack
3. Minutes: Last public meeting 27 November 2024 minutes approved by committee and on website. Minutes of committee meeting 14 May 25 circulated for info, to be approved at next committee meeting.
4. Matters Arising
  - Working Volunteer Application form not yet progressed due to time constraints. Any offers to help draft, please get in touch with Co-Chairs GL or LE.
  - Kelvin had thanked the group for the voucher. Simon Buston has temporarily taken over until the new SCC working structure is agreed and roles reallocated
  - First Aid Kit - GL has checked and replaced out of date items
  - Fundraising Priorities – BP meeting GL and LE 9 July. Report at next meeting.
5. Gardening: DL reported some trees had died. She will liaise with SCC regarding replacements. Hedging plants donated by the Council for the Protection of Rural England as part of their Hampshire Hedge programme had been planted by the Kitchener Road entrance. A dead hedge screen is being created in front of the compost bins. Many materials donated, which helps budget. Gardeners had supported the National Park City Urban Wild week at end of May with FoPR Wild Wonders, Bees, Bugs and Beasties event and attended the finale at the Common. Active gardening volunteer numbers remain fairly constant. DL thanked Frank and Freida for the regular litter picks. TR thanked Denise for coordinating the group and keeping it going.
6. Membership: Most members renewed, GL to send reminders. Some new members had joined. Currently 72 members in total .
7. Play Area: BP reported new equipment was popular. The opening event was a success and well attended. Stronger fixings were being installed following a few initial issues, in



part caused by excess user numbers. Older equipment is approaching the end of its design life, and the surfacing needs replacing. Potential future project. SCC are aware of the obscene graffiti that has been burnt into the carpet and working on a fix, but it won't be as quick as they would like. GL thanked PP, LA, ML and BP for efforts getting the recent work completed.

8. Events: The Wild Wonders event held at Scout Hut due to poor weather was a success and well attended. First Kids summer session on 7 June well received, another one 5 July. Target audience primary school children. Councillor Bunday discussing football sessions with Saints Foundation and Police. GL and TR will check progress. GL thanked TR and subgroup for organising events.
9. Treasurer Report: LA reported healthy funds. Just under £300 profit from the quiz and some donations received with membership renewals. Insurance has been renewed.
10. Committee Vacancies: GL reported Secretary and Comms roles currently vacant. Anyone interested should contact GL and/or LE to discuss.
11. AOB
  - BBQs: RS reported issues of hot coals from BBQs being emptied onto the grass. FS concerned that in dry weather a fire could result. SCC currently not banned BBQs in parks. GL to contact SCC for advice, and possibility of a bin for coals.
  - Anti Social Behaviour (ASB): Recent spate of ASB, in garden area, play area and recent dog attack. GL had raised at Police and Community Together (PACT) meeting. Police are conducting increased patrols. All asked to report any non urgent concerns to Hampshire Alert, 101 or complete the online reporting form on Hampshire Constabulary website or Community at SCC links below
  - Summer Newsletter – GL and ML will organise
  - Website – Linnet has been updating, please take a look and give feedback
  - Green Network – Gardeners hosted approx. 20 members of the Green Network on 15 May with a tour of the Rec which was well received
  - 100 Hours Volunteering Award – Congratulations extended to DL who recently received this award from the Lord Mayor. DL commented that so many others had helped success of gardening project.
  - Fallen tree – GL thanked RS for clearing and topping up the dead hedge with the large tree branch that had come down. RS reported that the tree is rooted in the flats and rotted where it had grown through the metal fence with the Rec.
  - Next public meeting 3 December 2025, next committee meeting 10 September 2025

Links to report non urgent ASB

Police: Phone 101 or report online <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/> o

Council: [community.safety@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@southampton.gov.uk)