



Friends of Devonport Park

Annual Report. Year End 31 March 2024

Events:

Our first event of the year was due to be an Easter Craft event over the Bank Holiday weekend. Unfortunately, due to yet another adverse weather forecast leading up to the day, it was necessary to cancel. Refunds were issued to those who required them whilst some decided to move their booking to our main event later in the year.

The second event was the Kings Coronation Lunch, hosted and catered by Martin & his staff. Our contribution to this was to print and sell the tickets. We also provided the decorations for the event and the tableware. This was not intended to be a profit making event but any profit was divided between us and Plymouth PIE Club.

Our main event of the year was in September and although it was relatively successful, considering the weather conditions (again a little dubious), it was not as well attended as we hoped.

Finally, the annual "Act of Remembrance" was held as usual. This has become more popular, year on year, despite the obvious lack of space.

Gardening. Our main area of work. Ferry Field – Arboretum. More work was undertaken in 2023 to create and wildlife hedge/windbreak on the upper slope of Ferry Field. The hedging was provided by the Urban Forrest Partnership and we provided the fencing to protect the whips as much as possible during the first few years. Fencing, posts and wire were purchased and we put in a 150metre barrier/windbreak. I'd like to thank Fairfax Luxmoore for his help with this project, along with the gardening team. Fairfax has also done some sterling work with mowing, large areas of the Ferry Field site.

The issues that we have experienced over the past few years, namely the lack of a greenhouse or any suitable structure for propagating plants for the park or to sell, still continued. Despite numerous attempts to attract a builder to undertake the necessary works, it was not until

October that we managed to obtain three quotes. APK Builders were the successful applicants and started work in early December. The initial quote was to erect the two small conservatories that had been donated to us however, it soon transpired that these were not fully complete so there was some extra expense incurred. However, the builders were also prepared to undertake the extra work entailed in demolishing the rotten wooden structure on site and replacing it with a new wooden building to be used as a classroom/office. Most work was completed just prior to Christmas although some minor snagging is still being undertaken and the internal walls have to be plastered, which has to fit in with their other contracted work elsewhere – given that they are a small Exeter based company, we are happy to go along with that. Internal fixings and fittings such as shelving, whiteboard and a small projector screen and solar powered ceiling lights have been purchased. This all fulfils the conditions of the Lottery Community Fund grant we received in early 2023.

Staging has been purchased for both Conservatories/greenhouses which are now being fully used. Seven water butts have been installed to help alleviate dependence on piped water.

Memorial Rose Garden This project, started in September 2022, has been a huge success, so much so that this year we have had to extend the area to cope with demand. We now have close to 100 roses on site.

There is now very little further scope to expand the current garden and if demand continues to grow, we may have to look for another area to open up.

Informal Training. These monthly sessions also form part of the Lottery grant. Since the retirement of our original mentor – Dennis Trewin, James Brown has kindly taken up the role of running these classes, and we thank him for stepping into the role so readily. Not everyone who wanted to take advantage of these sessions can do so on a Monday, therefore five individuals are currently provided by email, the course notes that James provides.

PCC Matters

There have been several changes of staff, based in Devonport Park, over the past year or so but, although they are not all on site, every day, there does seem to be something of a change in attitude with those

working alongside us. Some are actually taking part in the informal training sessions.

I think it fair to say that our working relationship with PCC staff has much improved lately however, there are still, a number of outstanding issues that need to be resolved. The bandstand hanging basket brackets for example. The disgraceful state of the Doris Gun Memorial is another. Routine maintenance, such as painting railings, street furniture and even the bandstand seem to have slipped by the wayside. It is an inescapable fact that public finances are under extreme pressure but now, more than ever, is the time when we, as the Friends of Devonport Park, do all we can to ensure that the standards of care and maintenance of this park is not allowed to slide back into the spiral of decline that was experienced from the 80's through to the late 1990's, before the restoration was done.

After all, that decline was the main reason that this group was formed in the first place and, in my opinion, a key reason for us to continue and keep highlighting, where necessary, issues regarding maintenance.

Future Plans. New funding bids need to be prepared and submitted to the Lottery Community Fund and I will ask James to work with us in preparing one. The criteria has changed in that whereas the maximum bid used to be for £10K for up to a year, it is now £20K and can last for up to 2 Years. This gives us scope for a number of possible projects to be included in one overall package. Some possible projects could include getting the bandstand copper lanterns refurbished, replacing the brackets for the hanging baskets, having the bronze urns installed, replacing the broken polycarb greenhouse, putting in soakaways on the petanque piste, continuation of informal training, a well-funded major community event (to include a serious drive membership campaign. Any other suggestions would be welcome. We would need to come up with a way of linking some of these various projects into one single funding bid.

There are other funding possibilities to consider as well, such as The Devon Community Foundation.

Membership. This has always been a problem issue. How to attract? and more importantly, keep new members. Not just for the gardening team but also as general members who are willing to get involved and help the charity. Running events is becoming a major issue, without

people who are willing to help physically on the day, as well as with organisation, I don't see how we can continue to host our usual Community Fun Days.

Other News

Green Hubs: Three "Green Hubs" have been set up in the city. One each based in Devonport, Keyham & Central Park. The idea being to involve local residents, community groups, businesses and any other interested party, in identifying underused, neglected or potential sites to be improved through "greening". This can include any publicly owned site and not just green areas but, blue areas as well as the initiative includes waterfront areas as well. Each area has two rangers, one from the National Trust and the other from Plymouth City Council. The Devonport team are Elliott Lang (PCC) and Henry Jones (National Trust).

Groups involved in the Devonport Green Hub (DGH) include Real Ideas Organisation (RIO), Pembroke Estate Management Board (PEMB), the Zebra Collective, Plymouth City Council, Devonport Leisure Trust, Headway, Plymouth Community Homes (PCH), residents groups, Routeways charity and the Friends of Devonport Park. Several action days have already taken place in Mt Wise and Marlborough Street.

New Groups. Several new "friends" groups have been formed this year, two of which are Tothill Park & Beaumont Park. As the FDP is recognised as being the most successful of the existing friends groups, I was asked to advise both groups on setting themselves up. The advent of these new groups has had the effect of re-vitalising the defunct "Friends Forum", under the banner of re-starting the Plymouth Open Spaces Network (POSN – currently chaired by Dave Curno from Friends of Ham woods. All participating groups have signed up to an agreed "terms of reference" between POSN and Plymouth City Council.

Finances:

Our total income across all three of our accounts for the financial year to 31 March 2024 was £15840(*rounded to the nearest pound*) which includes £10050 of grant funding.

Our total expenditure for this period was £20877 again rounded to the nearest pound.

Note: this excludes amounts transferred between accounts, as they cancel one another out.

During this period we received an £8900, Lottery Community Fund grant and £600 from our local ward councillors from the Community Fund Allowance. Our thanks must go to them for the continual support they have shown us over the years.

We also received an allowance of £300 from Streets, cleansing & green spaces (SCG) of Plymouth City Council towards bedding plants.

A summary of our main expenditures and Income:

Expenditures

Building works. Classroom/greenhouses	£11219
Memorial Rose Garden including roses	£ 1940
Arboretum	£ 160
Informal Training	£ 741
Events	£ 1487
Contracts	£ 742
Professional Fees	£ 500
Insurance	<u>£ 187</u>
	<u>£ 16235</u>

Income:

Grants	£10050
Roses	£ 1195
Events etc	<u>£ 1472</u>
	<u>£12717</u>

Finally, I would just like to offer my thanks, to all those who have given us their support and expressed their appreciation for what we are trying to achieve in this park and, especially to our Trustees and Committee members.

Friends of Devonport Park. Main Account No: 05257589.

1/4/23 - 31/3/24

<u>Date</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Our Ref:</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Balance</u>
	opening balance					£ 13,159.99
3.4.23	Plymouth Tree Partnership	DD		£ 24.00		£ 13,135.99
3.4.23	Plymouth City Council	Card		£ 2.80		£ 13,133.19
11.4.23	Plymouth VCSE	Card		£ 5.00		£ 13,128.19
11.4.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD	contract	£ 19.99		£ 13,108.20
12.4.23	South West Yraders	Card	M23/40	£ 11.87		£ 13,096.33
19.4.23	B&Q Ltd	Card	M23/41	£ 47.45		£ 13,048.88
24.4.23	Lidl UK	Card	23/46	£ 13.98		£ 13,034.90
24.4.23	Amazon Europe	Bacs			£ 5.19	£ 13,040.09
26.4.23	HMRC	Bacs	23/47	£ 100.00		£ 12,940.09
26.4.23	Wilko	Card	23/43	£ 102.95		£ 12,837.14
28.4.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/49	£ 11.99		£ 12,825.15
2.5.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/50	£ 8.49		£ 12,816.66
2.5.23	Chaplins Superstore	Card	23/51	£ 31.40		£ 12,785.26
3.5.23	Mrs P Gallagher	Bacs			£ 32.03	£ 12,817.29
4.5.23	Plymouth City Council	Bacs			£ 300.00	£ 13,117.29
4.5.23	Booker	Card	23/52	£ 148.06		£ 12,969.23
9.5.23	Gifford	Bacs			£ 97.84	£ 13,067.07
9.5.23	TFR. To FDP Bandstand A/c			£ 300.00		£ 12,767.07
11.5.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD		£ 9.99		£ 12,757.08
17.5.23	David Austin Roses	Card	23/53	£ 105.65		£ 12,651.43
17.5.23	Adobe	DD		£ 15.64		£ 12,635.79
18.5.23	Wilko	Card		£ 44.95		£ 12,590.84
18.5.23	LBS Horticulture	Card	23/54	£ 52.12		£ 12,538.72
19.5.23	Amazon Europe	Bacs			£ 16.27	£ 12,554.99
22.5.23	The Range	Card	23/55	£ 41.99		£ 12,513.00
25.5.23	AVG Technologies	DD	23/56	£ 39.99		£ 12,473.01
30.5.23	Lidl UK	Card	23/57	£ 3.59		£ 12,469.42
31.5.23	David Austin Roses	Card	23/58	£ 105.65		£ 12,363.77

1.6.23	Chaplins Superstore	Card	23/59	£	157.51	£	12,206.26
5.6.23	David Austin Roses	Card	23/58A	£	61.02	£	12,145.24
8.6.23	David Austin Roses	Card	23/585B	£	20.34	£	12,124.90
13.6.23	Iceland	Card	23/60	£	3.75	£	12,121.15
14.6.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD		£	9.99	£	12,111.16
19.6.23	Iceland	Card		£	3.75	£	12,107.41
19.6.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/61	£	35.38	£	12,072.03
23.6.23	Main Grants	Bacs			£ 8,900.00	£	20,972.03
27.6.23	Roboform	DD		£	18.95	£	20,953.08
26.6.23	Post Office Counters	Card	23/62	£	8.80	£	20,944.28
27.6.23	TEMU	Card	23/63	£	76.26	£	20,868.02
28.6.23	The Range	Card	23/64	£	36.98	£	20,831.04
30.6.23	VistaPrint	Card	23/65	£	22.79	£	20,808.25
3.7.23	Amazon UK	Card	23/66&67	£	48.93	£	20,759.32
4.7.23	Premier Barriers	Card	23/68	£	51.17	£	20,708.15
6.7.23	Amazon UK	Card	23/69	£	11.88	£	20,696.27
12.7.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD	23/70	£	9.99	£	20,686.28
12.7.23	Amazon Uk	Card	23/71	£	41.65	£	20,644.63
17.7.23	The Range	Card	23/72	£	18.44	£	20,626.19
24.7.23	Local Giving	DD		£	180.00	£	20,446.19
26.7.23	Computer & Printer Services	Bacs	23/73	£	40.00	£	20,406.19
31.7.23	Google	DD		£	24.99	£	20,381.20
3.8.23	HMRC	Bacs		£	100.00	£	20,281.20
3.8.23	Amazon UK	Card	23.74	£	9.49	£	20,271.71
11.8.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD	contract	£	33.99	£	20,237.72
14.8.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/75	£	4.39	£	20,233.33
14.8.23	Ebay UK	Card	" "	£	7.90	£	20,225.43
4.8.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/75	£	10.86	£	20,214.57
14.8.23	TEMU	Card	23/76	£	26.09	£	20,188.48
18.8.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/77	£	18.49	£	20,169.99
21.8.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/77	£	32.99	£	20,137.00
21.8.23	Microsoft	Card		£	59.99	£	20,077.01

24.8.23	Plymouth City Council	Bacs			£	600.00	£	20,677.01	
24.8.23	The Range	Card	23/78	£	14.95		£	20,662.06	
29.8.23	Clockwork Audio Systems	Card	23/79	£	126.60		£	20,535.46	
1.9.23	B&Q Ltd	Card	23/80	£	9.32		£	20,526.14	
4.9.23	Friends of Devonport Park.	TFR		£	500.00		£	20,026.14	
4.9.23	South West Traders	Card	23/81	£	3.00		£	20,023.14	
7.9.23	Devon Door Doctors	Card	23/82	£	46.00		£	19,977.14	
11.9.23	Hp Instant Ink	dd	contract	£	38.99		£	19,938.15	
12.9.23	Deposit					£	353.00	£	20,291.15
12.9.23	Deposit					£	25.00	£	20,316.15
12.9.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/83	£	40.60		£	20,275.55	
13.9.23	Plymouth City Council	Card		£	3.00		£	20,272.55	
13.9.23	Amazon	Card		£	8.99		£	20,263.56	
14.9.23	Rumwoods Ltd	Card	23/84	£	160.22		£	20,103.34	
18.9.23	B&Q Ltd	Card	2385	£	18.00		£	20,085.34	
25.9.23	D Trewin	Bacs	23/00	£	116.52		£	19,968.82	
25.9.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/86	£	2.93		£	19,965.89	
26.9.23	Ebay UK	Card	23/86	£	5.58		£	19,960.31	
26.9.23	Lidl UK	Card	23/89	£	75.63		£	19,884.68	
3.10.23	Lidl UK	Card	23/90	£	15.20		£	19,869.48	
4.10.23	Gedney Bulb Company	Card	23/88	£	81.36		£	19,788.12	
12.10.23	Hp Instant Ink	DD	contract	£	9.99		£	19,778.13	
16.10.23	Amazon UK	Card		£	290.00		£	19,488.13	
16.10.23	B&M Ltd	Card		£	3.50		£	19,484.63	
16.10.23	Amazon UK	Card		£	161.49		£	19,323.14	
17.10.23	Amazon Uk	Card		£	39.99		£	19,283.15	
18.10.23	W Morrisons	Card	23/100	£	27.00		£	19,256.15	
19.10.23	Ebay UK	Card		£	36.98		£	19,219.17	
20.10.23	Amazon UK	Card				£	39.99	£	19,259.16
23.10.23	HP.com	Card		£	175.99		£	19,083.17	
25.10.23	P&L Tool Solutions	Card	23/94	£	241.20		£	18,841.97	
3.11.23	James Brown	Bacs	23/97	£	125.00		£	18,716.97	

6.11.23	Amazon UK	Card			£	290.00	£	19,006.97
6.11.23	David Austin Roses	Card	23/104	£	463.91		£	18,543.06
6.11.23	Computer & Printer Services	Card	23/99	£	45.00		£	18,498.06
10.11.23	Style Roses	Card	23/101	£	158.85		£	18,339.21
13.11.23	Style Roses	Card	23/101	£	52.95		£	18,286.26
15.11.23	p Gallagher	Bacs			£	9.49	£	18,295.75
20.11.23	Withdrawal			£	200.00		£	18,095.75
20.11.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/103	£	2,450.00		£	15,645.75
27.11.23	Style Roses	Card	23/101	£	44.95		£	15,600.80
29.11.23	David Austin Roses	Card			£	29.91	£	15,630.71
30.11.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/106	£	2,450.00		£	13,180.71
30.11.23	James Brown	Bacs	23/105	£	125.00		£	13,055.71
30.11.23	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	32.00		£	13,023.71
4.12.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/107	£	389.48		£	12,634.23
4.12.23	Amazon UK	Card		£	9.49		£	12,624.74
6.12.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/98	£	1,800.00		£	10,824.74
18.12.23	TEMU	Card		£	38.94		£	10,785.80
18.12.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/109	£	1,119.00		£	9,666.80
21.12.23	fdp Bandstand a/c	TFR			£	500.00	£	10,166.80
21.12.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/118	£	2,936.00		£	7,230.80
21.12.23	APK Roofers & Builders	Bacs	23/110	£	75.00		£	7,155.80
22.12.23	Devon Door Doctors	Card		£	4.80		£	7,151.00
5.1.24	James Brown	Bacs	24/01	£	125.00		£	7,026.00
8.1.24	The Range	Card	24/02	£	6.84		£	7,019.16
8.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/03	£	73.91		£	6,945.25
10.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/08	£	23.25		£	6,922.00
10.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/04	£	61.58		£	6,860.42
17.1.24	Ebay UK	Card		£	26.99		£	6,833.43
17.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	24.00		£	6,809.43
17.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	24.00		£	6,785.43
19.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	25.00		£	6,760.43
17.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/05	£	35.00		£	6,725.43

24.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	24.00	£	6,749.43
24.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	24.00	£	6,773.43
24.1.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/07	£	35.00	£	6,738.43
1.2.24	James Brown	Bacs	24/9	£	125.00	£	6,613.43
5.2.24	RSS Commercial	Card	24/10	£	77.00	£	6,536.43
6.2.24	B&Q Ltd	Card		£	50.92	£	6,485.51
6.2.24	B7Q marketplace	Card	24/11	£	74.99	£	6,410.52
12.2.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/12	£	5.46	£	6,405.06
14.2.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/13	£	10.00	£	6,395.06
15.2.24	Ebay UK	Card	24/14	£	2.99	£	6,392.07
16.2.24	Jewsons	Card	24/15	£	153.37	£	6,238.70
19.2.24	Plymouth VCSE	Card	24/20	£	5.00	£	6,233.70
20.2.24	HMRC COTAX	Bacs		£	200.00	£	6,433.70
20.2.24	Ebay UK	Card	24/16	£	11.47	£	6,422.23
20.2.24	David Austin Roses	Card	24/18	£	49.95	£	6,372.28
29.2.24	James Brown	Bacs	24/19	£	125.00	£	6,247.28
01.3.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/17	£	7.47	£	6,239.81
04.3.24	Deposit			£	196.00	£	6,435.81
04.3.24	Deposit			£	250.00	£	6,685.81
06.3.24	Amazon	Card	24/24	£	51.95	£	6,633.86
6.3.24	Jewsons	Card	24/20	£	112.79	£	6,521.07
8.3.24	M Gallagher	bacs		£	20.55	£	6,541.62
08.3.24	TEMU	Card	24/21	£	15.02	£	6,526.60
13.3.24	Amazon ***	Card		£	20.55	£	6,506.05
13.2.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/22	£	33.30	£	6,472.75
13.3.24	B&Q marketplace	Card	24/23	£	67.96	£	6,404.79
21.3.24	Ebay UK	Card	24/26	£	11.01	£	6,393.78
21.3.24	B&Q Ltd	Card	24/25	£	27.44	£	6,366.34
22.3.24	Ebay Ltd	Card	24/26	£	27.12	£	6,339.22
22.3.24	Ebay Ltd	Card	24/26	£	33.85	£	6,305.37
22.3.24	M W Gallagher	Bacs	24/27	£	27.40	£	6,277.97
22.3.24	W Willoughby	Bacs		£	50.00	£	6,327.97

26.3.24	HP Instant Ink	DD	Contract	£	11.99	£	6,315.98
						£	6,315.98
	Totals				###	£11,963.27	
	Grants total	£9800.00					

Analysis

Annual Membership

Parking

Printing Contract

Padlocks

Gardening Materials

Gardening - bulbs

Amazon Members Donations

Penalty fee

Grow house/staging

Discs for grinder

Stationery

Gardening materials

Tommies repair

Community Fund Grant

Coronation Event /Gifford Supplies

Payment for Gifford material

Costs towards Coronation Event

Printing Contract

Memorial Roses

PDF License

Growhouse staging

Tree stakes & Ties

Amazon Members Donations

Gardening Materials

AVG Ultimate (1 year subscription)

Vol Epenses

Memorial Roses

Gardening Tools
Memorial Roses
Memorial Roses
Bottled Water
Printing Contract
Bottled Water
Water storage containers
Lottery Grant
Password protection Software
Stamps
Tools/gardening Equip
Compost
Business cards
Wheelbarrow/trolley wheels
Fencing
clipboards
printing contract
Sundries (brooms/megafone etc
Compost/Vol expenses
Membership
Printer Repair
Google Listing Service
Penalty fee
Subscription
Printing Contract
Sundries(broom Handles
Notice Board/ magnets)

Tyre inflator (wheelbarrows)
Lubican Sprays
Rose feed
Software Upgrade (Microsoft 365)

Cllrs Commun ity Fund Grant
Repairs
Audio Equipment Hire
Repairs (screws)
TFR to Event A/c
Cable Ties
replacement locks (4) container
Printing Contract
Event income
Event income
projector screen
parking fee
Amazon Music (Event)
Tree Roses (Maid of Kent)
Compost
Reference books
Seeds
Seeds
Spring Bulbs
Spring Bulbs
Spring Bulbs
Printing Contract

White Board Markers

Replacement A3 printer
Plant Hire (Digger)
Consultancy / training course

Memorial roses
Printer installation
Memorial roses
Memorial roses
Refund

Construction of Conservatories
Memorial roses
Discount on 23/104
Balance due
Consultancy / training course

Extra materials

Classroom construction

Classroom construction
Transfer from a/c 48979460
Balance due (classroom)
Extra materials
new keys(conservatories/classroom)
Training course/ consultancy
Shelf brackets (Classroom)
Shelf units & Timber

Shelving Units

Anti Mould Paint
shelving units

Refund
Refund
shelving units
informal training
Fuel

Water Butts
down pipe clip and gutter joint
wtare butt linking kit
corrugatd conduit
gravel & timber
POP MEMBERSHIP
Tax refund
Corrugated flexi pipe
Memorial roses
informal training
timber
receipts
receipts
Mycorrhizal
gravel & timber
refund of debit made in error ***
stationery
debit made in error***
Compost
gardening sundries
Secatuers
Sundries
Secatuers
Secatuers
Refund(ref: D Austin lunch)

Printer costs