

**Southampton Common Forum
Public Meeting
7th June 2016**



Meeting notes

1. Roger Brown, Highfield Resident's Association (HRA) introduced the meeting.
2. Address by Leader of Council, Cllr. Simon Letts:
 - a. Was student at SU in 1981/known Common since/have 2 children who use(d) it/he notably like(d)
 - i. Old cemetery – like the air of 'managed dereliction'
 - ii. Balloon& flower Festival – not now possible because of density of air traffic
 - iii. SSSI – orchids, amphibians, bats
 - b. Revamping paddling pool/play area –unexpected cost increase as old pump with asbestos found – better link with Hawthorns
 - c. Need to find way of bringing resources to Common – Community Infrastructure Levy / developer contributions and events income (25% to be re-invested back into Common) and bidding by Southampton Common Forum in future for grants etc.
 - d. Need shared vision and plan to enable bids.
3. Background to SCF
 - a. Simon Hill referred to
 - i. Common Sense group supported by HRA and successful clearance of Highfield Road since 2010 welcomed by public
 - ii. Other current issues on Common – a paper was handed out at the meeting to enable individuals to follow up (attached)
 - b. Graham Linecar referred to work of Southampton Commons and Parks Protection Society (SCAPPS) over last 100 years in defending the Common against inappropriate encroachments / development.
4. A workshop was held to identifying issues and stakeholders – facilitated by Simon Hill - as a first stage in developing a plan for the Common.
5. Consideration of draft terms of reference and framework for a formal constitution for Southampton Common Forum:

6. Conclusion: another public meeting would be held in September 2016, date yet to be set, and a much sooner meeting of the steering group to agree the agenda
7. Suggestion from the floor; that Council Officers should be invited to the next meeting to explain the Council's management structure for The Common, roles, responsibilities and issues.