

Committee Members: Listed below are names and contact details for committee members of the Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links. Please address all correspondence to the secretary

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PLEASE OBSERVE and SUPPORT the CODE



Fouling



On Walkways



BBQs



On reserved sites & pitches

Park Watch Partners:... Every 'Friend' is a partner in helping to protect our unique urban parkland, by acting as the Council's eyes and ears. They will appreciate your assistance, as they cannot be everywhere at all times. Just telephone one of the numbers below, if you see something that needs their attention, (you may give your name or not— as you prefer).

Dumped Items	0808 100 3366	Rubbish, furniture, traffic signs, shopping trolleys, etc..
Litter Problems	0131 664 8330	Environmental Task Force Manager for Meadows & Tollcross
Park Wardens	0131 332 2368	Vandalism to trees, turf, seats, playgrounds, monuments
Pathway Lighting	0800 23 23 23	Non-functioning lamps - quote lamp post number or location.
Police/St Leonard's	0131 662 5000	Disturbances, fires, vehicles parked on grass, vandalism
Graffiti	0131 200 2000	Graffiti removal (Council)



<http://www.fombl.com>

Dates for your Diary - Meetings of the Friends

The next Meeting will be at the Orthodox Church of St Andrew at 1 Meadow Lane (north of the tennis courts) on 27th Feb at 7.30pm

The talk will be on 'Biodiversity Options for the Meadows and the Links' by Tim Duffy

- * The Multi-play Unit has been re-painted
- * The benches inside the Play Park were re-painted

It is good to see the park so well used and looking brighter for its new paint.

Ann Wigglesworth Tollcross CC

The Summer meeting and AGM will be held at the Meadows Croquet Club on 19th June at 7.30 pm and will be followed by a Guided Tour of the Meadows led by our tree warden

West Meadows Play Park Project

Tollcross Community Council applied for and received a Local Development Committee(LDC) grant of £3,700 in 2004 for some refurbishment of the Play Park. The work was finally been completed in October 2005!

- * 2 new Springers for toddlers were installed in the space which had been empty for many years

Important: Marchmont & Meadows Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal. A Document from the Council is enclosed which all Members are asked to read carefully. The Character Appraisal will be the subject of an exhibition and Open Evening during the period 13 February to 17 February 2006. The exhibition will be open between 1pm to 5pm during these dates. The Open Evening, which will be attended by representatives of Planning, will be held on Thursday 16 February 2006 between 6pm and 8pm at Sciennes Primary School.

Comments on the Appraisal should be submitted to Jack Gillon, City Development, City of Edinburgh Council, 1 Cockburn Street, Edinburgh. EH1 1ZJ or email jack.gillon@edinburgh.gov.uk. Comments should be submitted by the end of February, 2006.



It has recently been suggested to Friends of Meadows and

Bruntsfield Links that many of the very useful signs indicating the names of the paths have gone missing for one reason or another, or in such a terrible state that they should be replaced. On a recent visit I found no signs at all in Bruntsfield Links!

Giving or following directions, or discussing various routes would be made much easier if there were proper signs on the footpaths and mixed footpath and cycleways across the meadows and Bruntsfield links.



The possibility exists for FOMBBL to try to remedy this situation by having the signs replaced, possibly by the application for an LDC grant.

However, things rarely being simple, it seems that that the present signs and commonly used names for paths are sometimes 'unhistoric'. Middle Meadow Walk of today, on older maps is simply 'Meadow Walk' and reverting to that name would perhaps be confusing, especially as nowadays there are many more paths. Even more interestingly, some paths may never have been named, Like the one from Livingstone place to the Boroughloch (unless you know better – if so PLEASE get in touch and FoMBL)



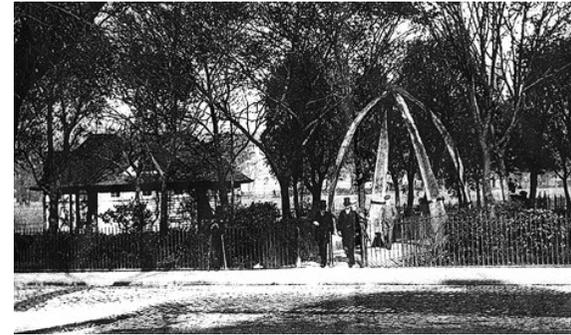
One bright idea is to have a competition amongst the primary school children from local schools who themselves frequently use the Boroughloch path to come up with a name, the winner getting a small prize, and the joy of seeing their name used!

What do members think?

This issue could easily be discussed at the next FoMBL meeting in the Orthodox Church on 27th Feb.

Tim Puntis

We Need New Members:
Do you know of anyone who is interested in the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links?
Why not ask them along to our meetings or tell them about our web site <http://www.fombl.com>



The first mention of the Pavilion in the Council records

was in March 1904 when Bailie McMichael moved " Remit to the Lord Provost's and Public Parks Committees to consider and report upon the erection of a combined Band Stand and Cricketers' Pavilion in the West Meadow Park".

The next reference was on 26 April 1904 : 28). read the following Report by the Public Parks Committee, on motion by Bailie M'Michael as to the erection of a Cricketers' Pavilion in the West Meadows Park - " The Public Parks Committee, having considered this motion and examined sketch plans submitted, beg to recommend the Magistrates and Council to authorise the erection of a cricketers' pavilion in the West Meadows Park at a probable cost of £450, and they crave a remit to obtain estimates for this work"

A notice in The Scotsman of 15 July 1904

West Meadows Cricket Pavilion
THE NEW PAVILION WILL BE opened ON SATURDAY
FIRST the 16th instant at 2.45 o'clock Afternoon. Thomas Hunter Town Clerk City Chambers 14 July 1904

The original photograph (above) seemed to me to show not all the present building

and I have discovered that the "wings" were added in 1938, building warrant being dated 22 January "to erect 2 Pavilions"

Further references have been scarce but I intend to do further research. At this time there was quite a spate of pavilion building, and the one in Kirriemuir, for instance, is listed. Another, also with razor wire about it,

to deter vandals, it is in Campbell Park. There seems to have been some influence of the Arts and Crafts architectural movement in the design. It is in very good fundamental condition, despite the neglect of the Council over many years. Due largely to our pressure, some remedial work has now been completed, by the re-slating of part of the roof, to make it water-tight, and the cleaning up of the kitchen and toilet which now works! Not however to a level you would consider in your home, unless you like a 1904 sink and tap, but it is a start, repainting is to take place in dark green, and proposals for its further use, including the request by a private individual for the operation of a café, are being considered.

It is in my view a meritorious building and it would be a pity if it were not brought more and better into use, and not be demolished as the Council at first seemed to want, as happened to the Band Stand, which older members may just remember. There is to be a full refurbishment assessment, but we have been warned the Council will not "pour" money into it if continual vandalism takes place.

Any further suggestions or information will be warmly welcomed.

Hamish McKenzie