

First things first – an apology to everyone who came along to the meeting on Sunday.

It was a difficult & fraught meeting – and we took the wrong approach. So we'd like to say sorry to anyone who left feeling disappointed and frustrated. We'll work hard to make sure we get it right in the future.

Nonetheless, some really good points & ideas came out of the meeting – and we've summarised these below, alongside the next steps were proposing to take.

Summary of the main points & ideas to come from the meeting		Proposed Next steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victoria Park is the flagship park in the town – and it should be kept and managed in that way <i>for the town</i> 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll update the Emerging Idea for the park for discussion at a bigger meeting in a bigger venue in the new year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By a show of hands, the majority of people felt that Victoria Park wasn't the right location for a Wellbeing Garden 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll look at other places & spaces in the town as possible locations for a Wellbeing Garden
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The toilets need a complete refurbishment 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll cost the refurbishment of the toilets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main path round the park is in need of some TLC 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll cost improving and resurfacing the paths as well
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be good if the new tennis courts could be made available for free some of the time, especially for children 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll look into how we might be able to offer free tennis time on the new courts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicity and consultation is essential - people need to be kept informed and involved and the Council needs to be better at doing this 	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We'll keep people up to date with news, plans & consultations in as many ways as possible

The other points & ideas to come from the meeting have also been recorded and these will be brought back for discussion at the meeting we're organising for the new year.

We'll be widely sharing & posting this summary – and we'll do everything we can to make sure that people with an interest in the park are kept up to date.

As part of this we're setting up a Parks & Green Spaces mailing list.

If you'd like to sign up for this (and only this!*) then please email us with your name and your email address.

If you'd like information in other ways please write in, call us or call in to our office on Palmer Street.

Paul Wynne (Town Clerk) and **Chris Stringer** (Environment Manager)

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**We'll only keep your details for the purposes of sending you emails relating to the parks & green spaces you're interested in. You can opt out of receiving the emails at any time – just tell us if you don't want to receive them anymore.*

If you're only interested in receiving emails about certain parks & green spaces then just tell us which ones you're interested in.