

## **1 MAINTENANCE**

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In general, the park is in a good condition. Through Tim Truluck's engagement with Bruce and Eugene, the hedges and trees have all been trimmed. Pikitup and JCPZ have come to the party, not only in emptying bins regularly, but also in removing the branches from the pruning. JCPZ have replaced broken concrete bins with metal tipping bins; they have also provided additional bins.

In addition JCPZ has funded the rubberising under the playground equipment

The greatest challenge is still the issue of the many users of the park who bring dogs. With three bag stations, extensive signage, and adequate receptacles for full bags, there are still far too many people who choose to ignore their responsibility to clean up.

## **2 USER GROUP**

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As there is a fair amount of discussion about the park on social media, I used the ILP Facebook page to garner interest in the Verity Park User Group. The group was formed through the good efforts of Tim Truluck ten years ago. It was a small group, focused primarily on cleanliness and running repairs.

An initial meeting was held 18<sup>th</sup> February, where around 15 people showed up. A further meeting was held 2<sup>nd</sup> March, where a functional committee was formed, including Mandy Mijnders (Park Cleanliness), Thomas Leask (Marketing), Caroline van Rooyen (Fund Raising) and Brendan Wiebols (Finance). Thomas has already created a discussion on ILP to encourage people to donate to the Group.

It is hoped the additional members of the Group will help improve the financial status of the group, and find innovative and effective ways to keep the park clean and maintained.

## **3 DOG WATERING STATION**

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After I called for ideas, Mark Reed from CI Construction stepped up, and offered to construct a dog watering station close to the children's play area. It unfortunately has to be there, due to the fact that the only source of water is from the Public Toilets. Water flow is controlled by a siphon valve, and there is a concealed stop-cock, to close off the water if necessary. The design is intended to be child and vandal proof.

## 4 SIGNAGE

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We do not have comprehensive signage as many other parks do.



I have repeatedly asked City Parks for a sign, to no avail. I have had an offer to sponsor a sign, and the project is in progress.

## 5 EMPTY SPACE

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There are a few people who have expressed an interest in working to explore the possibility of a replacement ramp, or an alternative feature. Shaen Buckley polled the I Love Parkhurst Facebook group for comment on three ideas developed by an interest group. Most votes were to erect a Mini Family Pump Track. Approval processes and funding options are being explored.

## 6 ENTRANCES

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In the rainy season the entrances become slippery, muddy and dangerous. I used the ILP FB group to ask if anyone could assist, and, once again, Mark Reed had no hesitation in offering his services again. Not only have the entrances in 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 14<sup>th</sup> Street been paved, but they now sport very neat sliding gates.

## 7 ADOPT A PARK

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Much of the work done in the park by either PRABOA or the user group has been carried out through an informal liaison with JCPZ. In August, we received confirmation that we have officially adopted the park. Through this adoption, the value of the investments made by the



community in the park have been taken into account. Furthermore, we are now able to continue with following activities to sustain the work already undertaken.

- Cleaning and maintenance
- Indigenous tree planting
- Provision of 24/7 security including patrols and surveillance
- Fencing
- Provision of additional dustbins
- Outdoor equipment
- Inward facing sponsor branding
- Installation of by-law signage

What this really means is that, we continue as we have been, but the relationship does now have formal recognition from JCPZ.

## **8 FUNDING**

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Currently the maintenance and upkeep of the park is funded by sponsorships and user contributions. Plus the Association has very generously sponsored new equipment. There may be a need for certain new projects to be funded, and I would like to ask that the Association make a provision for an amount not exceeding R 50 000, for the year.