

Appendix A

Public Petitions and Questions –Charity Trustees Sub- Committee– 22nd January 2024

N.B - Please note that a period of up to 30 minutes shall be allocated at meetings of Policy Committees and other appropriate bodies for members of the public to present ordinary petitions or to ask questions of Members and officers present.

Petitions Received from Members of the Public - 0

	Petitions	Response:
1.		

Questions Received from Members of the Public x 10

1. Page 1	Question from Friends of Graves Park	Response:
	<p>Are the Charity Sub-committee members aware of the following regarding the Norton Nurseries section of Graves Park:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Norton Nursery is part of the gift to the citizens of Sheffield by J G Graves, is part of Graves Park and is charitable parkland? 2. That in 1998 this land was declared derelict and surplus to requirements by the council and that attempts were made to sell it for housing development? 3. That this was eventually prevented by strong local opposition, eventually supported by the Charity Commission and that there was an apology at the time from the council and an assurance that the land would be restored back to parkland? 4. That the first section of this restoration, Chantreyland Meadow, was actioned by the Friends of Graves Park and that this section opened in 2006? 5. That the council attempted, yet again, to dispose of the Norton Nurseries site in 2008, this time in an attempt to move St. Luke’s hospice to the site, as once again they insisted that it was derelict and surplus to requirements? Are they also aware that this failed, partly because of the huge local opposition from the local community and beyond, partly because of the eventual intervention of the Charity 	<p>Elements of the Norton Nursery site have been used for the maintenance of Graves Park and other parks in the local area prior to the amalgamation of the nursery site into the 2009 Graves Park scheme. The site is currently a part of a Council-wide review into how it conducts its operations across the city and until this review is complete the site cannot be released to be turned into parkland. Finding an alternative site at this time would be impractical and uneconomic both in respect of the maintenance and operational aspects of running Graves Park and for providing services to the other parks in the surrounding area.</p> <p>We are aware of the excellent work the Friends of Graves Park have put into the Chantreyland Meadow and the Arboretum and are motivated to see further parts of the site restored to similar standards. However, we are currently not in a position to allow any volunteer groups access to the site to conduct work due to health and safety concerns. Due to moving vehicles, COSHH and PPE required it would not be safe for members of the public to have access to this site. Furthermore, there are a lot of vehicles, equipment and other expensive items that need to remain in a safe and locked area that is currently provided by the site.</p>

Commission and partly because subsequently it emerged that St. Luke's could not have financially made this move?

6. That the second section of restoration of the site, called the Arboretum, or "The Secret Garden", actioned by the Friends of Graves Park, opened to the public in 2016? Are they also aware that at this time the Friends asked for the third section to be released for restoration?

7. That as late as 2014, the council insisted that the Norton Nurseries site was not being used, was derelict and was surplus to requirements?

8. That the Parks department, when saying that this land has been used as a depot for parks since the closure of the Norton Nurseries horticulture activities, cannot be correct if the land was declared derelict and surplus to requirements in 1998 and again in 2008?

9. That the FOI responses we received make it clear that the Norton Nurseries site "is not and has never been designated "depot land", yet despite this, the site is being used as a depot for Graves Park and other local areas? Are the Trustees aware that these "other local areas" are:

a. "Parks in these areas include: Barbers Field, Batemoor Open Space, Beauchief Gardens, Bents Green Playing Field, Bradway Rec, Broadfield Rd Open Space, Chancet Wood Playing Field, Dore Rec, Graves Park, Graves Park Animal farm, Green Oak Rec, Greenhill Park, Herdings Park, Meersbrook Park, Millhouses Park, Totley Bents Open Space, Totley Hall Playing Field, Whirlow Brook Park, Beaver Hill Rec, Charnock Park, Frecheville Park and Whinfell Quarry Gardens?" (22 Including Graves Park and Graves Park Animal Farm)

b. "In addition operatives working out of Norton Nurseries cover the following areas of the city (and associated green spaces) Dore, Totley, Whirlow, Millhouses, Bradway, Lowedges, Greenhill, Norton, Batemoor, Jordanthorpe, Meersbrook, Heeley, Gleadless, Frecheville, Birley, Charnock, Basegreen. Teams working in these areas will empty bins that have been used by the public and bring the bags of rubbish to Norton where they can then be taken by a larger vehicle to the waste collection site in Darnall to save multiple vehicles driving to and from Darnall every day." (Total of 17 including Norton).

c. In addition, we have anecdotal evidence that rubbish is brought here from Page Hall and Concord Parks. Also, during Covid, when Endcliffe Park had to be cleared of the rubbish left by the public, it was all taken to Norton Nurseries.

	<p>10. That the Parks department has conceded that this land needs to be restored back to parkland? This being the case do the Trustees agree that waiting for a review of depots, which could take up to 5 years, is not relevant, since this site is not a depot and that 25 years is far too long for the local community to wait for Sheffield City Council to honour its promise to allow the Friends of Graves Park, at their own expense, to restore this section of the park back to parkland?</p> <p>Finally, are the trustees aware that the next section to be restored is not currently occupied or being used for anything and that the above activities, as well as the storage of vehicles and fuel, are all within the part of the Nurseries on the other side of the glasshouses and that the commencement of restoration would not impact on the use of the Nurseries as a depot?</p> <p>Will the Charity Sub-committee please, as a matter of urgency agree to the land being released to the Friends of Graves Park, so that it can be restored back to parkland and reopened to public use with immediate effect?</p>	
2.	Question from Ruth Hubbard	Response
Page 3	<p>It's disappointing to see yet another rather cheerleading report on Tramlines that - in line with all reports that have gone before - fails to address considerable local Hillsborough community concerns. In fact, once again, it appears public and private,/corporate interests are aligned and conflated - whilst community concerns are ignored.</p> <p>1. So it's claimed a "comprehensive review" of licensing arrangements has taken place. What role, then, have local community and park user group stakeholders, plus local citizens, played in this comprehensive review? What was learned and taken on board by all parties?</p> <p>2. A reasonable list of community concerns that have been being consistently raised for four years or more at least includes: - impacts on/ mitigations for local businesses</p>	<p>1. The report states “ <i>The current licence agreement has been in place since 2018 and following a review that started in 2022, coupled with the issues experienced following adverse weather in 2023, a comprehensive review of this licence agreement has taken place.</i>” This refers to “right to occupy” licence agreement (not the premises license for licensable activities). The review of the agreement focussed on “wet weather mitigations” and “event cancellation procedures” from the lessons learned from the 2023 festival. As stated in the report, there has been no public consultation regarding the licence agreement (as is the case for the detailed content of all event licence agreements that the council issues.</p> <p>2. Community concerns were collated and responded to after the event in July (as detailed in September 2023 reports) and have been considered in the report presented to committee today (January 2024).</p>

- urine-filled gardens/ginnels and smelly streets
- other anti-social behaviour (street drunkenness/pre-loading, litter etc)
- a range of parking/traffic/public transport issues (& for better end of day dispersals)
- re-entry for all as of right (rather than discretionary gift & favour for local residents), and prohibitive drink/food costs from largely chain-type festival stall holders for its consequently captive audience)
- disputes about noise levels and the disturbances they bring
- a range of other evident pre and post-festival impacts

Which of these (or any general festival management arrangements that concern local residents) were considered for the comprehensive review and as suitable for building in to new licence arrangements.

3 What do officers and councillors know about Tramlines in-house residents survey, and what is said in feedback sessions? Why is it mentioned in this report without mentioning any findings and influence these might or might not be having? Indeed, why aren't the findings public? Why isn't the appropriateness of a corporate partners own survey not questioned? What information have officers gathered themselves, or understood from petition, PQ, local cllr insights, LAC representations and the fact its consistently all over social media year on year?

4. Why does this council continue to ignore Hillsborough residents wide-ranging concerns? What do they need to do to be heard? Should they spend a year like graves park campaigners have, very strongly pushing the council, using loud and powerful well-known local voices, holding a few protest-type public meeting events, or should they plan to do things like picket Tramlines or engage in other direct disruptions? Would that kind of action be better heard by our council? Does 'people at the heart of all we do' mean Tramlines people? Is it more boring for officers to talk to local residents, businesses and groups and understand their concerns - or to continue to block their voices - than it is to engage with a rapidly growing

There has not been a list of community concerns consistently raised for four years. Some issues such as re-entry, were not raised until the 2022 event. The park has never been damaged to the extent it was in 2023 and reinstatement has usually happened within a matter of days. Please see the answer to question 5 which sets out the role of the Tramlines resident team.

In 2023 the resident parking scheme was extended to include more roads patrolled by stewards and there is a dedicated resident parking page on Tramlines website.

3. The resident feedback is on the Tramlines website.

4. The residents views are being heard. Tramlines have put measures in place to mitigate concerns wherever feasible, e.g. parking enforcement. The council received a significant number of complaints following the 2023 event and the report considers and responds to the concerns raised.

global business with private equity backers and an increasingly complex corporate structure?

5. Why has the Parklife Festival in Heaton Park Manchester had a Community Impact Team in place since 2015, plus an Event Community Consultation Group dealing at a detailed level with local community impacts when Sheffield and Hillsborough does not? Why has Portsmouth's Victorious Festival (also run by Superstruct) got re-entry rights for all that are championed by their local council as protective of local businesses, when Tramlines does not?

5. Residents Team (response from Tramlines)

During the build, event and break Tramlines have a dedicated residents liaison team that answers phone calls, emails and in-person visits at their base at HASA or occasionally reaching out and visiting a resident's address.

The Residents Team have been doing this since we arrived in Hillsborough in 2018. It's a full-scale, month-long operation and the team has direct contact with the council's Event Management team and our on-site Event Control.

Should an incident arise, they find out the full details and then raise it with Event Control or go directly to the agency the query belongs to. For e.g. if there is a traffic management issue, they will log it with Event Control, follow up with the external Traffic Management company and communicate any recurring issues to the Event Management team until the situation is resolved. They will then follow up with the resident to update them on the situation.

If a resident gets in touch about sanitation issues or litter, then our residents team will go through the proper channels and speak to our litter picking team. This team will clean the park and a separate, dedicated team will cover the surrounding streets and departure routes. If any resident calls our Resident Liaison Team with a complaint about litter, this team will be deployed to resolve the issue.

Outside of when we are in the park, members of the Event Management team directly handle anything resident related. This includes but is not limited to; handling resident queries, organising and attending Resident Drop-in Sessions twice a year, issuing pre-event comms to keep residents

6. What are the implications for local residents (as well as festival goers) of a shift to a 'right to occupy' licence from a premises licence? (And does this have any impact in the context of charitable status?)

7. Will this council require all Tramlines Reports from now on to directly address community concerns and the progress that is being made on these issues?

updated on our plans and managing all resident ticket enquiries and fulfilment.

Victorious Festival – Re Entry

This festival has excess of 5 large entry and exit gates that can accommodate a transient crowd compared to the 2 fixed width exits Tramlines has.

Victorious site is significantly larger than ours (spanning nearly all of the Southsea seafront) which allows their entrances and exits to split the amount of people efficiently and deal with queues.

To fulfil this they shut surrounding roads of the site for the duration of the show to create sterile areas. - this is something we would not want to do around Hillsborough ark as residents wouldn't be able to move around freely.

6. There are no changes to the basis on which the licence agreement is being offered, the terminology is being standardised to help with understanding and this is explained at paragraph 1.6 of the report 'A premises licence does not give an automatic right to occupy and use the land. The right to occupy and use the land is granted further to a different type of licence (licence to occupy). Under this licence to occupy SCC (as licensor) will grant TEL (the licensee) with the right to occupy Hillsborough Park for a period and for a specific purpose (i.e. for staging the Event). In return TEL will pay SCC a licence fee. For ease, this report refers to the licence to occupy as the 'the licence agreement'.

7. There is a current process for Tramlines to engage with residents as set out in answer to question 5.

8. Will this committee refuse to endorse work towards new licence arrangements before community and local stakeholders concerns have been fully discussed with those involved and appropriate consultation carried out to consider them as potential inclusions for the new licence? I note that this is exactly what the relevant committee did when it was discovered that no stakeholders had been properly consulted for the development of the MUGA proposals in Hillsborough park. That is, the committee delayed MUGA progress until basic consultation work was done with stakeholders.

9. I note the £500 to be donated to Friends of Hillsborough Park. Except FOHP has folded precisely because they felt utterly dispirited by the council failure to engage Presumably the walled garden group will now benefit from this £500. Have our council perused Tramlines (multiple companies) latest submitted accounts?

10. I also note on the hillsborough park accounts on another item, Friends of Hillsborough Park are 'bigged up' as being at the centre of park management arrangements. If this was ever true, its not been true for a while has it? What do the council intend to do about the inaccuracy in the accounts, and about new hillsborough park arrangements with the demise of FOHP.

11. Who controls Tramlines Trust, and what are the management arrangements? Do they involve local residents and stakeholders? What information is made public about their donations and work?

8. Comprehensive consultation was carried out regarding the Hillsborough Activity Hub. At the Charity Sub Committee in March 2023, the committee requested that further consultation, should be carried out, particularly with young people. The minutes of that meeting state 'Agrees to defer the report to a later meeting to allow further work to be carried out, including further briefings for committee members on the exempt appendices to the report'.

Feedback received as a result of the reports taken to committees in September 2023 and subsequent emails received to SCC and feedback from elected members, including Hillsborough Ward Councillors, have been included in this report; for instance allocating a specific amount of funding to make improvements to Hillsborough Park and giving customers an option to make a voluntary donation to the Hillsborough Park Charity.

9. Paragraph 1.15 of the committee report states that Tramlines will donate £500 per annum to the Friends of Hillsborough Park (or other volunteer group working in Hillsborough Park) to help volunteers to continue their valuable work in the park.

10. The last published reports for the Hillsborough Park Charity were for the financial year ended 31st March 2022 and were accurate at the time of submission. They will not be retrospectively amended.

11. This is a question for Tramlines. There is a page on the Tramlines website that gives some information. [The Tramlines Trust - Tramlines Festival 2024](#)

	<p>For clarity, in answers I am not interested in hearing more defensive justifications about Tramlines, still less more of our council acting as corporate cheerleaders. These answers simply act to obscure and block ongoing, legitimate and persistent community concerns and as though hillsborough has to simply put up with it for the sake of Sheffield. These answers also sometimes assume - or seem to want to assume - that it's a zero sum debate of for or against Tramlines, when it's not. Nor do I hope to hear more about what members of councillors families think of Tramlines. I've also had some perfectly reasonable letters from committee chairs in response to previous inquiries and questions - however, I cannot recall a time when a committee or an officer report has taken up in any serious or meaningful way the community concerns I'm talking about, nor have I heard any positive proposals being brought forth in public in committee meetings to tackle concerns</p>	
3	<p>Questions from Lucy Lowe</p>	
Page 8	<p>There is a lot of social media and facebook noise and a survey that had 185 responses carried out by a local councillor. Given that over 8000 people from Hillsborough area attend Tramlines, does the committee think that the 185 responses is representative of the feelings in Hillsborough? Or is it just a campaign against Tramlines?</p>	<p>This committee acknowledges that Tramlines does have a significant impact of the people that live in close proximity to Hillsborough Park and the council works hard with Tramlines to try and mitigate these impacts as far as possible. It also knows that around 8000 people who attend Tramlines are from the S6 area. Its is therefore a reasonable assumption to make that 185 responses is a relatively low number compared to the number that attend the festival. We we will continue to work with Tramlines to ensure they see the feedback.</p>
4	<p>Questions from Mark Taylor</p>	
	<p>I am in favour of tramlines in Hillsborough park but I want to know, are the improvements to the park just to help Tramlines? What benefit will people who use the park every day see from the improvements? And how much will be spent in the park?</p>	<p>The additional improvements that we will commit to, will not only benefit Tramlines. We can ask local people what they think. For instance, improve the lake or lighting in the park. We will be able to agree how much is spent on these things once we have agreed a fee and considered the council revenue budget each year and look at what other funding is available as we might be able to match other funding and increase the amounts. We will then make this amount publicly known.</p>
5	<p>Questions from Adam Goodison</p>	

	<p>What happens if the committee doesn't approve this new agreement. Does that mean that Tramlines will move out of Hillsborough park? If it does, where will it go and will it still be in Sheffield?</p>	<p>If this committee does not agree to the licence agreement, then the council will need to give Tramlines notice that it can no longer hold the event in Hillsborough Park. The notice period will mean that there will be 2 further events before the agreement ends. There is no other site in Sheffield that can accommodate Tramlines.</p>
6	<p>Questions from Lisa Norman</p>	
	<p>I want Tramlines to stay but also want to know if Hillsborough Park will be used for more music events like the Arctic Monkeys or will it just be for Tramlines? I think residents would be happier if we knew it was once per year, on set dates. What will happen if it rains again this year like it did last year? Is the committee satisfied that lessons have been learned?</p>	<p>We are clear that this cannot happen in the future and will therefore factor in the impact of severe weather during the Tramlines weekend this year when making any decisions about large scale events in future. We will consider requests for large scale events on a case by case basis, ensuring that we have residents and the park's best interests in mind when making decisions.</p>
7	<p>Questions from Louise Hood</p>	
Page 9	<p>The report about Tramlines says that Hillsborough Park is there to provide a public park & recreation ground to improve the public's condition of life. It seems that around 40000 people attended Tramlines last year & a previous report says that 58% of people who attended were from Sheffield & 45% had under 16 yrs in their group. This is a very family friendly festival & the only opportunity I get to attend a festival in Sheffield with my children. Does the committee agree that there should be more family friendly music events for the people of Sheffield that mean I don't have to travel outside the city? Manchester has Sounds of the City in the centre. As a music loving family we are asking you to please keep Tramlines in Sheffield.</p>	<p>The committee has seen the results of Tramlines survey that show that there are many young people who attend Tramlines and many of these with their parents. We will consider this alongside all points raised in making our decision.</p>
8	<p>Questions from Anthony Gleed</p>	
	<p>Can the committee please set out what engagement Tramlines do with local residents, how many tickets do they give away and how does this compare to other events like the Arctic Monkeys.</p>	<p>Chapter 2 of the report sets out the number of tickets that Tramlines gives to local residents. Chapter 2.4 states " The Tramlines Local Resident Ticket Scheme was open to 3900 households in 2022, up from 1500 in 2021. In 2023, 1614 free or discounted tickets were distributed, an increase of 16% from 2022, at a cost of £171,440 to the festival. Since</p>

		<p>it's move to Hillsborough Tramlines has donated over £560,000 worth of tickets to the Hillsborough residents''.</p> <p>Arctic Monkeys promoters did not have any resident ticket schemes.</p>
9	<p>Questions from Stacey Fieldsend</p> <p>How much does the council pay to Tramlines for them to have the festival in the city? Does it cost us as council tax payers? I love Tramlines but it shouldn't cost us residents to have it.</p>	<p>The council doesn't pay anything to host Tramlines. It does provide officer support from the Major Events team, and this is the same as the council provides for all major events in the city. Tramlines doesn't cost the residents of Sheffield. Tramlines pays a fee to the council for using Hillsborough Park and whilst the amounts cannot be disclosed, the reasons for this are set out in paragraph 1.16.</p>
10	<p>Questions from Caroline Brodie</p> <p>If the weather is as bad as last year ,will Tramlines take the decision to cancel the event? Determined by whether Tramlines will lose money .I want the event to stay in the park but also the park to be protected</p>	<p>The decision to go ahead with the event in 2023 was not determined by costs. The Tramlines Festival is insured and any decision will be taken to protect health and wellbeing of all the people both attending and producing the event. Hindsight is helpful and the council has worked with Tramlines to put steps in place to make sure that if the same weather circumstances happened in future, there is a process that supports the decision making for cancelling the event.</p>