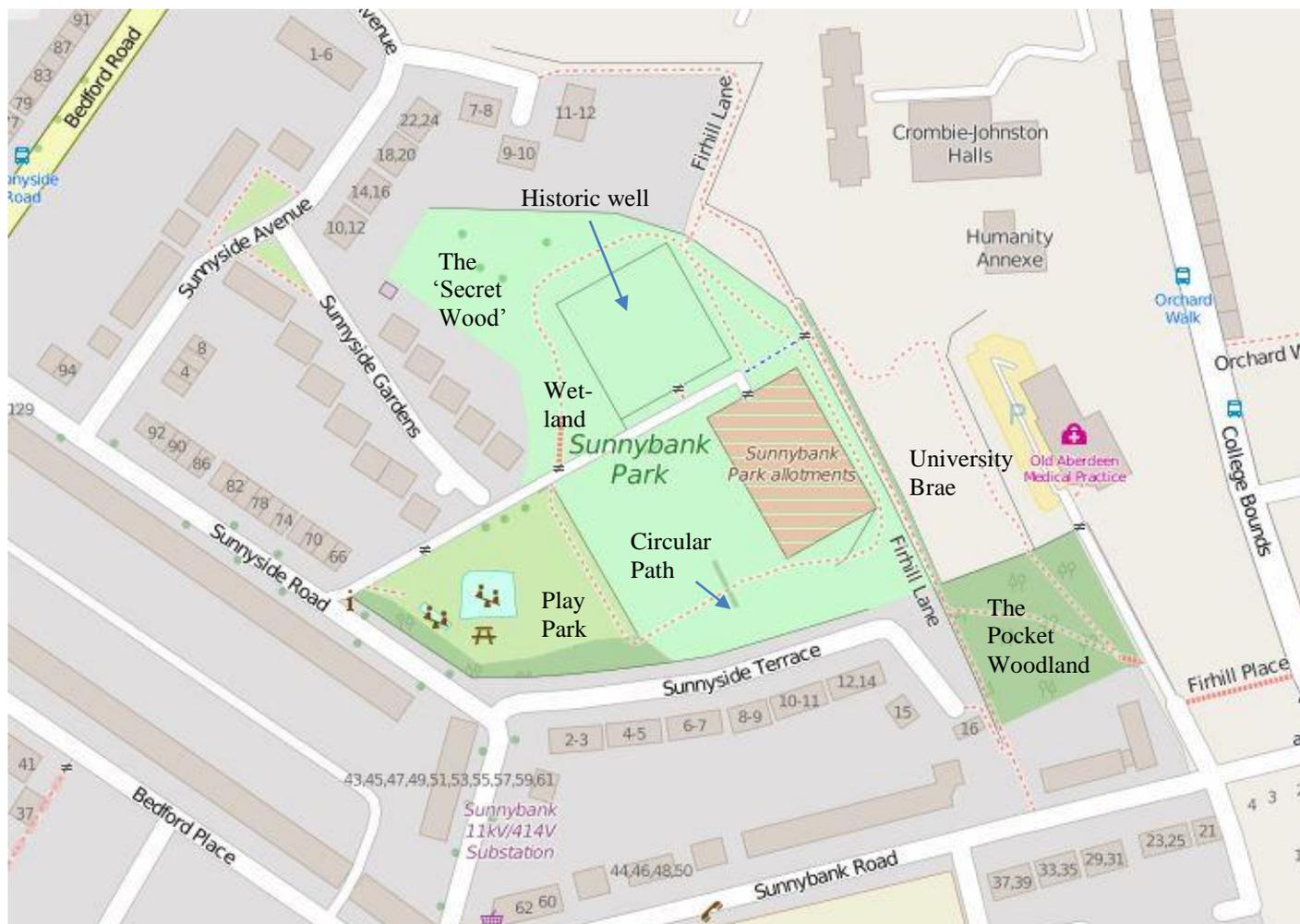




Sunnybank Park *Keeping the 'sunny' in Sunnybank*

Newsletter Summer 2016

Sunnybank Park is the green lung of Sunnybank, Froghall, Powis and Old Aberdeen. It is in fact several areas under different ownership and management, but a network of paths knits it all together and gives the feel of a single, sizeable park. The core area is leased and managed by the Friends of Sunnybank Park, a community group that formed in 2010 to stop the area being sold to developers. At the end of our five-year lease, we're pleased to say that the Council have agreed to let the lease roll forward annually, a recognition of all the work put in by members of the community.



AREA FOCUS: THE WETLAND

One tricky area when we took on the park was the 'sump', a low-lying area that receives water from the park on one side and housing on the other. Some spectacular floods in the early years earned it the alternative name of 'Sunnybank Loch'. Hardy volunteers descended into the drains with rods and cleared out a blockage, but the geography of the area means that it will always be wet. We have decided to work with this by planting wetland wildflowers like meadowsweet and yellow flag iris and raising the path slightly. It now makes a pleasant stage on the circular walk and helps to absorb floodwaters, as in the major floods this winter.



**Friends of Sunnybank Park Annual General Meeting
Saturday 27 August, 2pm in the park. ALL WELCOME**



Sunnybank Park is a haven for wildlife: bees, butterflies, bats, a sparrowhawk, hedgehogs, a fox and even a badger have been spotted over the years.

Volunteering. Sunnybank Park is sustained by volunteers, both those who do a little tidying or other work whenever they can and those who come to our official volunteer days on the second Saturday of every month. These run from 2 to 4 p.m. during British Summer Time and from 11 to 1 in the winter months. As well as helping out the park you can learn new skills such as how to prune fruit trees.

A dog bin is never far away. Sunnybank Park is very popular with dog walkers, which sometimes leads to, um, a sticky situation. If you enjoy taking your dog into the park, please don't leave a health hazard for other users. You can put bagged dog waste into any bin in the park, not just the dedicated dog bins. There are bins at the Sunnyside Road entrance, on the corner of the allotments and in the Pocket Woodland so even if one is out of action you don't have far to walk.



Everyone needs Friends! Sunnybank Park is managed by the 'Friends of Sunnybank Park', a local community-based charity. Members get news on the Park and a chance to have a say in its future at the Annual General Meeting. A few also become Trustees, responsible for the more day-to-day affairs of the park. There is no doubt that we could do more with more members and Trustees, so do speak to a member or check out our website to find out about joining.

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