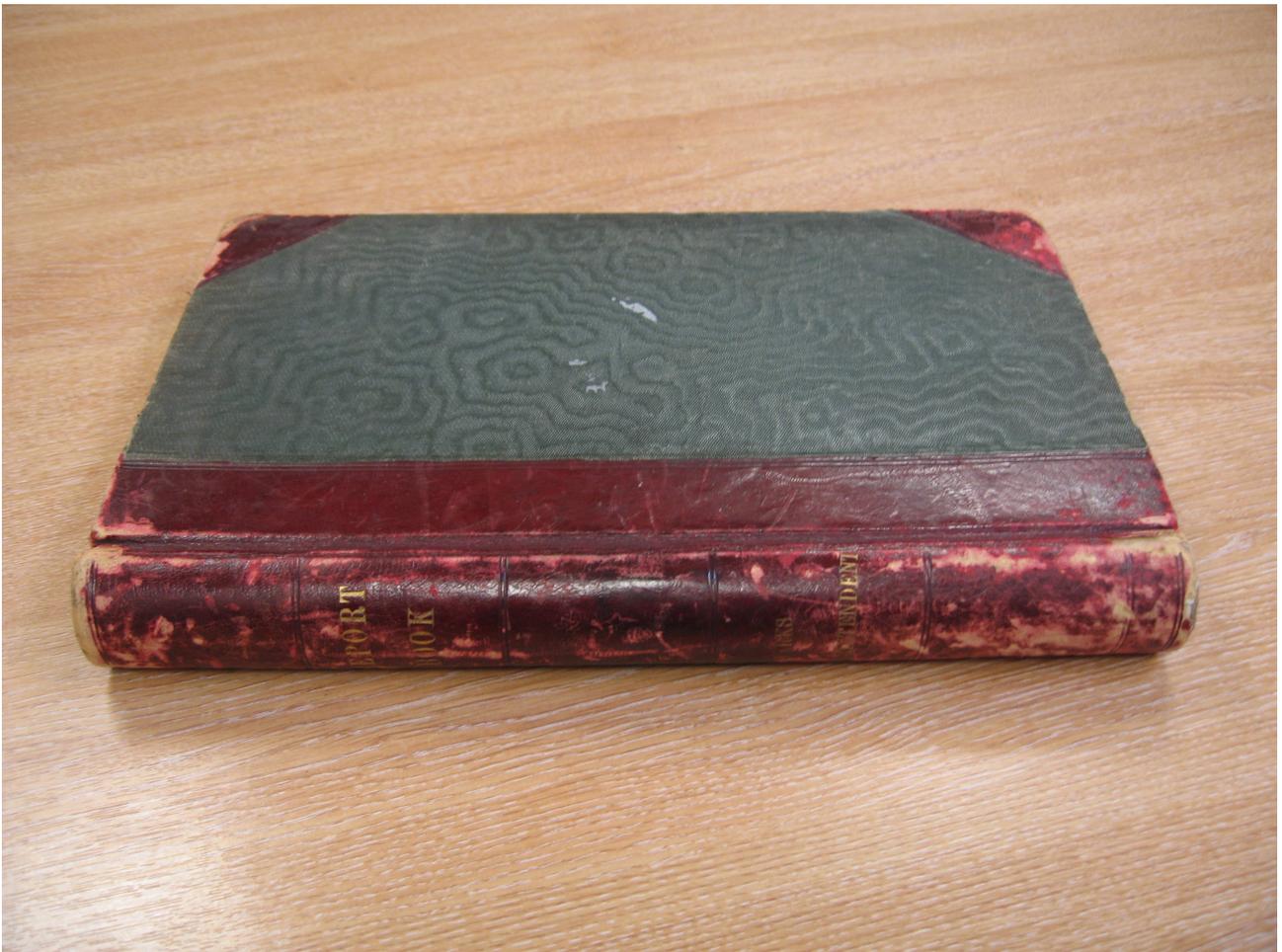


# Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports

January 1908 - October 1912



Transcribed by Anne & Andrew Bell,  
with the assistance of Rosie James, Principal Landscape Officer,  
Cardiff Parks Service

April 2012

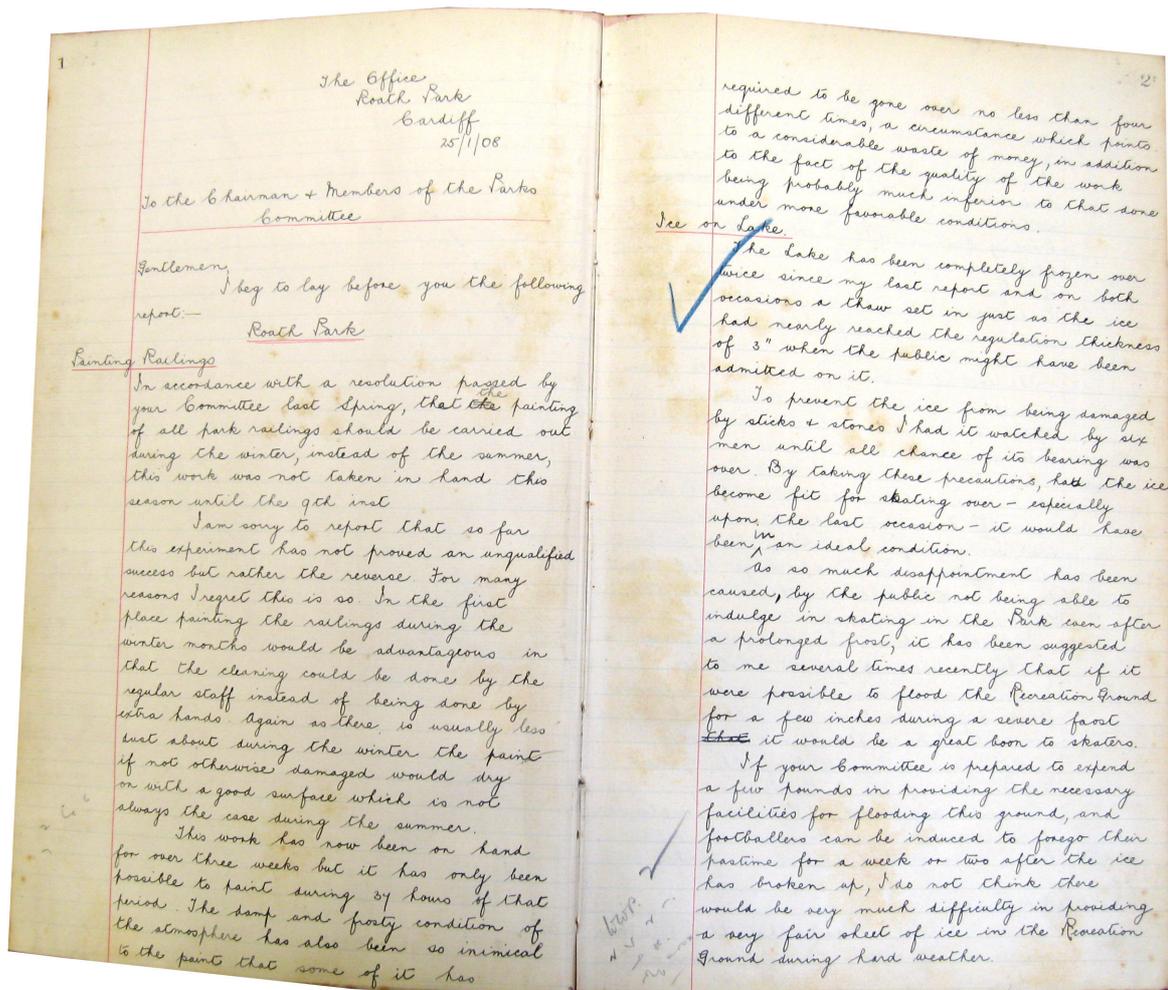
## Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports

This is a handwritten Report Book in which the Parks Superintendent, William Pettigrew, drafted his reports for the Cardiff Council Parks and Open Spaces Committee. It is currently in the care of the Cardiff Council's Parks Service.

Pettigrew held the position of Parks Superintendent, and subsequently Chief Parks Officer, during the period covered by the Report Book. A variety of handwriting styles appear in the reports, but Pettigrew personally signed very nearly all of them.

Where possible the text has been transcribed exactly as it was written on the page together with any inconsistencies, including errors in spelling and use of capital letters and punctuation. Where text has been crossed out or altered in the original document, only the corrected text has been transcribed. There are some notes in the margin, but these are often illegible and in some cases contain shorthand. These have not normally been transcribed.

Page numbers from the Report Book have been inserted in italics at the beginning of each individual report. Where appropriate, the transcribers have added comments which are found in square brackets within the text.



Superintendent's Report Book pages 1 and 2

## **Report Dates**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Report book page number</b>	<b>Page number in this document</b>
25 January 1908	1	4
22 February 1908	6	7
25 April 1908	9	9
16 May 1908	13	11
23 June 1908	19	14
25 July 1908	25	17
26 September 1908	31	20
17 October 1908	37	23
24 October 1908	47	28
30 November 1908	51	30
22 January 1909	56	32
22 February 1909	61	34
24 April 1909	66	36
24 May 1909	72	39
28 June 1909	75	41
26 July 1909	80	43
23 October 1909	82	45
24 January 1910	86	47
28 February 1910	90	48
25 April 1910	95	50
22 June 1910	98	52
25 July 1910	103	54
20 September 1910	107	56
24 October 1910	112	58
29 November 1910	116	60
27 March 1911	119	62
24 April 1911	123	64
[Undated]	126	66
19 September 1911	129	68
23 October 1911	134	71
14 February 1912	137	73
31 May 1912	141	75
24 June 1912	146	78
17 September 1912	153	82
9 October 1912	159	85

The Office  
Roath Park  
Cardiff  
25/1/08

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks Committee

Gentlemen,  
I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Painting Railings**

In accordance with a resolution passed by your Committee last Spring, that the painting of all park railings should be carried out during the winter, instead of the summer, this work was not taken in hand this season until the 9th inst

I am sorry to report that so far this experiment has not proved an unqualified success but rather the reverse. For many reasons I regret this is so. In the first place painting the railings during the winter months would be advantageous in that the cleaning could be done by the regular staff instead of being done by extra hands. Again as there is usually less dust about during the winter the paint if not otherwise damaged would dry on with a good surface which is not always the case during the summer.

This work has now been on hand for over three weeks but it has only been possible to paint during 37 hours of that period. The damp and frosty condition of the atmosphere has also been so inimical to the paint that some of it has required to be gone over no less than four different times, a circumstance which points to a considerable waste of money, in addition to the fact of the quality of the work being probably much inferior to that done under more favourable conditions.

#### **Ice on Lake**

The Lake has been completely frozen over twice since my last report and on both occasions a thaw set in just as the ice had nearly reached the regulation thickness of 3" when the public might have been admitted on it.

To prevent the ice from being damaged by sticks & stones I had it watched by six men until all chance of its bearing was over. By taking these precautions, had the ice become fit for skating over – especially upon the last occasion – it would have been in an ideal condition.

As so much disappointment has been caused, by the public not being able to indulge in skating in the Park even after a prolonged frost, it has been suggested to me several times recently that if it were possible to flood the Recreation Ground for a few inches during a severe frost it would be a great boon to skaters.

If your Committee is prepared to expend a few pounds in providing the necessary facilities for flooding this ground, and footballers can be induced to forego their pastime for a week or two after the ice has broken up, I do not think there would be very much difficulty in providing a very fair sheet of ice in the Recreation Ground during hard weather.

### **Open Spaces**

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

### **Bowling Green at Dispenser Gds.**

In accordance with your instructions I have gone in to the question as to the possibility of forming a Bowling Green in the Dispenser Gdns. I find the ground is of sufficient area to permit of a full size green being laid out upon it provided the shrubbery at the south side is done away with and the north & south entrances closed.

The cost of constructing a suitable green upon this site would amount to £226.12.0 while its equipment would run to another £39.10.0.

### **Trees in Bute Esplanade Gardens**

A number of the residents in the Bute Esplanade have complained to me that the trees growing in the Open Space in front of their houses are now so large that they have entirely blocked out the view of the Channel from their windows. At the invitation of these residents I visited one of their houses and found that even from the upper rooms it was quite impossible to see beyond the trees, and I therefore saw that their complaint was perfectly justified & undertook to bring the matter to your notice at the first opportunity.

I should suggest that the trees complained of be headed, in a similar manner to the Plane Trees in most of the streets in the city.

Caretaker O'Brian

I have to report that this caretaker who is an old Indian Mutiny Veteran - is becoming very feeble, both mentally & physically. I am afraid that unless something can be done to do away with the necessity of his doing duty on the road in front of the Grangetown Recreation Ground, he will sooner or later meet with the same fate as your late caretaker, Phillips who was knocked down by a Motor Car from the effect of which accident he ultimately died.

## **Miscellaneous Matters**

### **Allotments**

During the past month I have received a number of applications for allotment Plots upon the Sloper Road Ground which was previously used for this purpose.

I have informed all such applicants that their letters will be brought before your meeting to-day after which I shall let them know what your decision thereon may be.

Next week your tenants at the Wedal allotments will be entering into a fresh agreement for another year. As I understand a number of them are behind with their rents I shall be glad of your instructions as to whether or not such tenants are to be allowed to continue their tenancy.

### **Planting in Llandaff Fields**

During the next few weeks the Tree planting which you decided last year should be carried out this season in the Llandaff Fields will be put in hand. The iron railings necessary for the protection of these plantations will be dressed with a tar solution instead of an oxide paint as the former will prove about 60% cheaper

### **Presentation**

I have much pleasure in reporting that Mr Harris Wain of Sully presented two tree ferns to the Park on the Dec 10th last

***Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports***

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept.

The Office,  
Roath Park  
Cardiff  
22/2/08

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks etc Committee

Gentlemen,  
I beg to lay before you the following report:-

**Roath Park**

**Painting Railings.** The one hundred pounds set aside for painting the railings at Roath Park, having become exhausted the painters were stopped at this work on the [blank space] inst

I am still of opinion that it is a decided disadvantage both from the standpoint of economy & efficiency to carry out the painting of the railings during the winter months

**Turf for Bowling Greens.** On the 11th inst in the company Mr Priestly, I visited Lisvane Reservoir and selected a piece of ground about half an acre in extent that I consider well adapted for turf culture. As this is one of the best pieces of ground connected with the Lisvane Reservoir, Mr Priestley naturally expects a fairly high rental from it. He has written to me asking for £2.10.0 per annum for the land in addition to 10/- a year to cover damage to road resulting from haulage to & from the land.

I shall be glad of your decision upon this matter as I should like to proceed with the preparation of the ground forthwith.

**Fishing Boats on Lake**

As the fishing season commences some time before the date specified for the new boating contractor to begin letting out his boats for hire, you may perhaps, when considering the boating tenders today make some arrangements whereby the successful tenderer may be able to allow fishermen the use of the boats from the opening of the fishing season. This matter was overlooked when your Committee first decided the date upon which the boats were to be ready for hire & if not remedied now will cause some inconvenience to fishermen.

**Otters**

A male otter weighing 22lbs was destroyed in the brook on the 13th inst.

**Open Spaces**

**Loudoun Square**

In accordance with your instructions I beg to submit the following estimate for converting the upper (north) half of Loudoun Square into a Children's Playground:-

Preparing the ground for Asphaltting	20	0	0
Laying 2710 Sq yards of Asphalt	237	2	6
Providing 6 Swings & Giant Stride	30	0	0
Contingencies	10	0	0

---

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

£297 2 6

---

**Llandaff Fields**

**Hedges**

Since my last report the lower ends of the two hedge rows abutting upon the public footpath at the North West side of the Llandaff Fields has been reformed & planted up with young Thorns.

**Tree Planting**

On the 17th inst. we commenced planting the small groups of trees, & the avenue parallel with the main path at the Cathedral Road end of the Fields. The trees being used for this purpose are Japanese Larch, Corsican Pines, Ash, & Flowering Chestnuts. I hope to have the planting completed during the next ten days.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks: Dept.

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee

Gentlemen,  
I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Fishing**

Although the weather has been most unsuitable for fishing a good many anglers have already availed themselves of the opportunity afforded for following this sport at Roath Park Lake. Up to the present date 115 licenses have been taken out and as it is still early I hope more will yet be issued before the season gets on. I am pleased to say that everyone reports that the fish taken are in excellent condition.

On the 9th inst between 3,000 & 4,000 yearlings were placed in the Brook at the head of the Lake and these should go far to make up for any depletion likely to take place during the current fishing season.

On the 11th inst 22,000 fry were dispatched from your Hatchery at Roath Park to Llanelly. Although these were only 3 months old they realized a sum of £19.5.0 the best price received so far for such young fish.

#### **Refreshment Rooms**

While a charwoman was working in these Rooms on the 2nd inst her foot went through the kitchen floor and it was found that the whole of the boards, joists etc were perfectly rotten and in a very dangerous condition.

Under these circumstances I did not wait for your Committees sanction to get the floor put right but immediately sent a requisition to the City Engineer to have this work put in hand at once. I am pleased to say the kitchen was put in thorough repair before the Easter Holiday & it was in use as usual on that day.

I regret to report that on the night of Easter Monday these rooms were broken into but as all the money had been removed over night by the tenant & the tills of the "Cashier" left open nothing was taken away & no damage was done except to the door which had been apparently forced open with a small crowbar.

#### **Bank Holiday**

Notwithstanding the cold unfavourable weather great numbers of holiday makers visited the Parks on Easter Monday. At Roath Park the 2nd VB [Volunteer Battalion] Welsh Band played during the afternoon when over 360 persons made use of the chairs. I am pleased to report that everything passed off very satisfactorily and without accident.

#### **Bowling Greens**

As it is customary to commence Bowling & Tennis about the first Saturday in May I shall be glad of your instructions as to whether, taking into consideration the lateness of the season you desire to

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

open your Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts on the 2nd prox or keep them closed till the 9th prox.

I shall also like to receive your definite instructions regarding the New Green at Roath Park. Last year it was only let for the purposes of Matches & Tournaments when a charge of 2d per hour was made for each player.

I need not remind you that great dissatisfaction was expressed by players both in regard to the extra charge made and the fact of the green being reserved merely for matches.

### **Miscellaneous Matters**

#### **Accident to young Gazelle**

I am sorry to report that during the past winter the young Gazelle at Canton has been suffering from rheumatism and completely lost the use of its hind quarters. On the 19th inst it was noticed that one of its hind legs had broken and the veterinary surgeon – who attributed this accident to the extreme weakness of the animal – ordered its destruction.

#### **Work carried out for Mental Hospital Committee**

As you are no doubt aware, your Committee has for the past 6½ years taken taken charge of all horticultural work carried on in connection with the Mental Hospital Committee at Velindra, the workmen employed there being regarded as part of your own staff. Although their time & wages passed through the Parks Dept. books the Mental Hospital Committee was debited each month with the sum expended upon wages & material at Velindra.

At the beginning of the present month this staff was placed upon the Mental Hospital Departments books and I therefore ceased to superintend its work. I am pleased to state however that before relinquishing this change I was able to carry out in its entirety the design approved of by the Mental Hospital Committee which I prepared for laying out the Airing Courts, Fruit & Vegetable Gardens & the ground around the Doctors house.

According to your instructions some time ago I had to keep an account of the time I spent on this work & make a Departmental charge for t[he] same to the Mental Hospital Committee. For the first five years when I was visiting Velindra regularly once & twice a week I kept no record but since January 1907 I have kept an account of every visit. For the past fifteen months the aggregate number of hours taken up with such visits amounts to 276. Of course this does not include odd times spent in the office in planning out planting but merely deals with actual time spent on the site. I shall be glad of your instructions regarding the amount to be credited to your account for my services.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew

[Written in pencil: meeting 18/5/08]

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Asphalting Footpaths**

Since the beginning of April an effort has been made to lay down as many as possible of the footpaths in Roath Park in asphalt, before the busy season commences.

Notwithstanding the unsettled weather experienced during the past two months I am pleased to say good progress has been made with this work as the whole of the broad path from the main entrance on the West side of the Botanic Gardens to the Refreshment House has been asphalted. This is a decided improvement, and adds greatly to the comfort of pedestrians, especially during damp weather. Previous to the asphalt being laid on this path it was always most uncomfortable to walk upon after a shower of rain, as it became so soft & sticky. This has been entirely overcome by the asphalt.

During the present week the main path on the Ninian Road side of the Pleasure Gardens will be similarly treated with asphalt after which this work will be discontinued for the season as the sum of money set aside for the purpose will then be exhausted.

#### **Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts**

The Bowling Greens in the whole of the Parks & Open Spaces were opened for play on the 9th inst. Owing to the heavy rain which fell for a few days prior to the 9th the greens were unfortunately not in such a good condition as I should have liked them, being very soft & easily marked.

As the edges of the Greens are already wearing badly I am afraid your Committee must seriously consider the question of using a breadth of Canvas at the playing ends during damp or very dry weather. Canvas is used in this way on a great number of greens & is found to be a great protection to the grass.

The tennis courts were so soft on the 9th inst. that I did not permit play until the 11th inst.

Two nets for Howard Gardens have been purchased and as soon as the weather is suitable play will commence in these Gardens. I may say that should you decide to net in this ground and arrange the Courts from east to west instead of from north to south, room could easily be found for four instead of two nets.

#### **Cricket Practice**

As so many more clubs etc wish to have practice during the evenings in Roath Park than there are nets for the purpose, I have recently had to arrange with the Park Keeper on duty there to give

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

permission to the smaller boys to practice at a safe distance from each other between the match pitches. All adults practising are confined to the nets.

#### **Accident**

I am sorry to report that a lad 9 years of age named Buckingham of 74 Angus Street while passing the practice nets was hit on the face with a ball. He was so badly injured that he had to be taken by his parents to Dr Boyd who found it necessary to stitch up the lads eyebrow.

#### **Lost & Found articles**

No articles have been reported as lost in the Roath Park during the past month.

The following articles have been found:-

May 10th	1 pair of spectacles (Handed over by Mr Miles Ninian Rd) not yet claimed
May 15th	1 boys overcoat (Handed over by A. Parsons 7, Claude Rd claimed by Trevor Roberts 8 Kelvin Place
May 17th	1 Dogs Collar (found by Pk Keeper) Returned to owner whose name was stamped upon it. Mr Ridgeworth 177 City Rd

#### **Report re Season Tickets for Bowlers**

In accordance with your instructions I herewith beg to submit for your consideration my own views as to the advisability or otherwise of introducing a system whereby Season Tickets might be issued to bowlers enabling them to play upon any of our greens throughout the city.

Needless to say such an innovation can readily be supported by its advocates with as many arguments in its favor as can be advanced by its opponents against it.

A fair number of persons would undoubtedly purchase Season Tickets if they were to be had, who would never be able to take out their money value in play and in such cases Season Tickets would be a decided gain to your Committee. Further if the season turned out wet and the greens could not be played upon as fully as during a fine year the issuing of Season Tickets would ensure a certain income irrespective of the weather. Lastly one point in favor of Season Tickets – which would probably be more appreciated by a private firm than by a wealthy corporation – is that they would provide a sum of ready money at the beginning of the season before any great amount of expenditure on the upkeep of the greens took place.

On the other hand however great the advantages of Season Tickets may be, their introduction would undoubtedly lead to a great deal of confusion on the greens, and open the door to the possibility of much abuse, both on the part of the players and Bowling Green attendants.

Before Season Tickets would be at all popular it would be absolutely necessary to fix their price at such a figure that the majority of players would find it more advantageous to purchase them than pay a penny per hour for their game as at present. In other words the present rate would have to be considerably reduced, a proceeding for which there is really no call as every reasonable person must

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

admit that a penny per hour for the privilege of indulging in a healthful recreation provided under the best possible conditions is a very fair charge & requires no modification in that direction.

A certain number of Season Tickets holders would almost certainly monopolize the greens – not necessarily to the exclusion of other players as our present rules would prevent such a thing from taking place – during those times of the day that the greens are now allowed to remain idle. It may very reasonably be imagined that, as no persons would be prevented from the use of the greens, under these circumstances no harm could be done, but this is not the case for a very considerable amount of wear & tear would be taking place for which no additional income would be received to make it good.

Your past experience of the Bowlers using the public greens has been such as to show that, they, like all other sportsmen are endowed with an abundance of human nature, and it would not be out of keeping with my experience to say that I thoroughly believe that if once you issue Season Tickets their holders will feel that they have acquired a proprietary right to the use of the greens, and friction with the officials – especially when a difference of opinion occurs regarding the condition of the greens – would be frequent & inevitable.

Under all circumstances I certainly think it will be inadvisable to alter your present system, whereby all comers are treated alike, no player having more consideration shown him than another.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee  
Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Asphalting Paths**

Since my last report the main walk on the West Side of the Pleasure Gardens has been asphalted from end to end. A great number of visitors express themselves as highly gratified with the asphalted walks as they find them so much easier to walk upon than gravel paths.

The whole of the money allowed in the current estimate for carrying out this work has now been exhausted and nothing further can be done in this direction till next season.

#### **Seats**

As the Roath Park is becoming more popular every year a greater number of people are now visiting it on Sundays & holidays and as a consequence there is a much greater demand for seats. Since the introduction of Bowls & Tennis a far greater number of people sit about the Parks on fine evenings than formerly and it is often most difficult to find a vacant seat.

Under these circumstances I think it would be as well next season to purchase from 50 to 100 more seats for Roath Park.

[in the margin is a pencil tick plus "£125"]

#### **Gudgeon Fishing in Roath Park Lake**

My attention has recently been called by an angler to the fact that a number of your licensed fishermen are catching gudgeon at the Lake Overflow by means of naked hooks. The Gudgeon congregate at this point in great shoals and the practice is to drop naked hooks among them and to withdraw them rapidly again. By this means great numbers are hooked in the vent but the complaint is that greater numbers escaped with their bodies torn & injured & in this way the practice is nothing short of cruelty. As none of your fishing rules deal with such a matter I have not prohibited this form of fishing but I shall be glad of your instructions hereon.

#### **Bathing Boxes**

On the 17th inst. your men commenced excavating at the Bathing Stage in preparation for the erection of these Boxes and the foundations for same were put in on the 23rd inst.

#### **Weed in Lake**

The weed in the Lake is now growing apace in consequence of the warm weather recently experienced. During the present week the Cutting Machine will commence work when it is hoped the weed will be kept sufficiently under control for the rest of the season.

#### **Music in Parks**

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

During the time Bands have been playing in the Parks this season the weather has on the whole been exceedingly favorable & so far no rain has fallen during a single performance. At Roath Park the performances have been well attended, this being especially the case during Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Whit-week when between 30,000 & 40,000 people visited the Park.

The Thursday evening concerts are not drawing such large crowds as attend on Wednesdays but I think their popularity quite justifies your Committee in continuing them during the coming month. If they could be advertised a little more freely I do not think there would be any great difficulty in getting a much greater attendance of the Public.

In this connection I may say that I think the time has come when your Committee must seriously face the question of Advertising your Band performances – especially those given at Roath Park. Up to last week the public had not had a fair opportunity this season of knowing what bands were playing in the Parks, for although a large number of Band Rotas were distributed they were not used sufficiently to make any impression in the City. I am pleased to say that The Tramways Dept. has posted rotas in all the cars this week and a copy has also been placed in each of the eight Reading Rooms connected with the Free Libraries Dept. In addition to these means of advertising your Band Performances I would suggest that a large notice board – say 3' 6" x 2' 6" – be placed at the various entrances to the Roath Park upon which an announcement of the Bands playing in the Parks could be made a week in advance. In this way persons visiting the Park on Sunday would know what bands were going to play during the coming week. The printing entailed in carrying out this suggestion could easily be done by one of your staff by the use of stencils or rubber stamps and would undoubtedly prove a cheap and effective method of advertising your bands.

While the conduct of the persons attending the Roath Park Band performances is on the whole highly satisfactorily I regret to say that such is not the case at the other Parks where bands are playing this year. The behaviour of the children & youths at Splott & Victoria Parks & Grange Gardens has been so bad that it has been found necessary to engage several police officers during each performance to assist your Park Keepers in maintaining order.

On the occasion of the first performance at Splott Park this year the young people & children were running about among the audience & shouting so much that it was absolutely impossible to hear the band playing within the Band enclosure. In addition to this they were running through the shrubberies and pulling plants, trees, & shrubs to pieces, & doing other wilful damage.

On the evening of the second performance no children unless accompanied by their parents or guardians were allowed within the Band enclosure and as a result for the first part of the evening good order prevailed. About an hour before the performance came to a close a great many youths between the ages of 15 & 18 came within the enclosure & commenced throwing balls & stones to each other and indulging in horse play. A great many people also brought in children and once inside the enclosure took no further notice of them but allowed them to play & run about as on the former occasion. The result of this was that by closing time the Band enclosure was again a perfect pandemonium.

Band performances given under such conditions are nothing short of a waste of public money and until some means can be adopted to put down rowdyism at these performances it would be quite as well to discontinue them altogether. The first step towards altering the present condition of affairs rests with the public themselves, for as long as parents bringing children to the Band Concerts allow them to run riot when once they get inside the band enclosure and as long as visitors not merely

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

refrain from checking their misbehaviour but actually side with them the children will continue to make a "Bear Garden" of these gatherings in spite of a regiment of Park Keepers or Policemen.

#### **Lost Found & Stolen Property**

During the past month 27 articles have been reported at the Office as having been lost in the Parks while 23 articles found lying about the grounds have been handed in at the Office. These losses comprise bags of money – in one case £27 in Gold – gold & silver bangles, locket, & watches.

Mrs Ramsdale of Audrey Villa Whitchurch reported that she had had her purse stolen while looking at the Monkeys in the Monkey House at Victoria Park on the 24th ult. A lad named Lessy of 34 Flora Street had his boots stolen while he was paddling in the Brook in the Recreation Ground at Roath Park.

#### **Accident**

On the 5th inst. a lad named Leo Power of 4 Kilkatten Street fell or jumped off the roof of the shed at Splott Park and broke his leg. Before taking him to the Infirmary P.C. Price & Park Keeper Webber rendered "first aid"

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept.

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Fatality at Lake**

I regret to report that a young man named Cornelius Collins of 93 Cairns St, lost his life while bathing in Roath Park Lake on the morning of Sunday the 5th inst.

It appears that Collins accompanied a friend to the Boys Bathing ground and from there swam out for a distance of about 50 yards and when returning was seen suddenly to sink. The Park Keeper on duty at this point noticing that the man had disappeared, & hearing hearing a faint call for help, blew his whistle for the Swimming Expert who reached the spot within a minute from the time the unfortunate man was last seen. Immediately diving he located the mans position & seizing his hand, (which already had become perfectly limp) he tried to drag him to the surface. He found however that as the water was between 8 & 9 feet deep, and the young fellow had become entangled in the weeds, growing in this part of the Lake, that it was quite impossible to raise him without some help.

The swimming expert getting back into his boat was able with the assistance of one of the bathers – Mr Evans of 188 Inverness Place – to get a body hook underneath the body and bring it to the surface. As soon as they reached land artificial respiration was resorted to for over a hour & ten minutes but without avail as at the end of that time Dr Wallace – who had been summoned to attend – pronounced life to be extinct.

In addition to Mr Evans already mentioned the following gentlemen rendered great assistance to your Park Keepers while trying to restore animation:-

Mr Payne, 61 Monthermer Rd. Sergt Hugglestone of the City Police & Mr Jenkins 13 Kimberly Terrace. Everyone present at the time spoke very highly of the prompt & plucky manner in which your Bathing Expert tried to rescue the young man.

So that your Committee may the better & more easily understand the circumstances of this most unfortunate occurrence, a plan of the Lake showing the site of the accident will be placed upon the table for your inspection. It may however be quite as well to supplement the plan with the following explanatory remarks:-

The Boys Bathing Ground is only intended for those who are unable to swim, or who are very poor swimmers. We very much prefer any who wish to go out into deep water to use the Bathing Stage end of the Lake where the Expert is stationed & where if one should get into difficulties there are always numbers of able swimmers ready at hand to give assistance. At the Boys Bathing Ground the water is very shallow for about 20 feet out but at 30 feet from the bank it is 4' 6" deep and at this distance – which we regard as the limit of safety for non-swimmers – a line of three buoys is placed, and the attendant usually stops small lads from going beyond them. Anyone keeping within this line

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

can bath with perfect safety and have plenty of room for doing so.

As mentioned in my last report the warm weather was at that time causing the weeds in the Lake to grow very rapidly, and on the 24th ult. 4 men were employed at cutting & clearing them out of the Lake. These men were continuously at this work until the Friday morning before the accident. All the weeds within the line of buoys and to a distance or 12 feet north of the limit of the lads bathing place were cut, as well as those in a straight line across the Lake. The weeds to the north of this (into which young Collins went) were well defined and could be seen distinctly from the embankment 200 yards away & why anyone should venture among them when there was so much room elsewhere I cannot understand. At the inquest – where your Committee was represented by Mr Ensor from the Town Clerks Office – the jury returned a verdict of “Accidental Death” and recommended that a notice board should be fixed in line with the Life Buoys intimating to bathers that beyond that point it was dangerous on account of the depth of water, and further that a second boat should be used on the Lake during bathing hours and stationed at the Boys Bathing Place. I undertook the the Coroner to bring these recommendations to your notice.

### **Bathing Boxes**

About 23 Bathing Boxes have been erected at the Bathing Stage since my last report and the walling & cement flooring have now been put ready for the remaining 40 which I hope will shortly be completed.

### **Games in Pleasure Gardens**

During the recent fine weather your Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts have been very much used & appreciated by the public. The lack of conveniences however is greatly felt & is freely commented upon by a large number of visitors. Perhaps the City Engineer might be able to draw up some scheme whereby such complaints may be obviated another season.

### **Bands**

Since my last report five bands have had their performances stopped on account of the wet weather. The performances however which have been carried through have maintained their popularity and large crowds have been present in the various Parks, during the time bands have been playing. At Roath Park what was apparently the second attendance for this season, took place on the occasion of the visit of the Llanbradach Ladies Choir on Wednesday evening last. No fewer than 1120 persons were inside the band enclosure during the performance. Judging by the applause the efforts of the Choir were greatly appreciated.

I am pleased to be able to report that at Splott Park & Grange Gardens a very marked improvement has taken place in the conduct of the youths & children since drastic steps have been taken to ensure their good behaviour.

The behaviour at Victoria Park is now the worst in the City and I am greatly afraid that it will remain so until some effective means can be taken to prevent children & youths from creeping through or jumping over the boundary fence as they do so easily at present.

### **Accident to Lad**

On the 29 ult. a lad named Walter Quinn had his foot cut with a piece of glass whilst paddling in the brook in the Recreation Ground. Notices warning children of the danger of paddling and also forbidding them to deposit broken glass in the brook, are posted up regularly each season and still these accidents are very frequent every year.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

### **Supply of Hot water to Pic-nickers**

The Gas Co have now laid on the gas to the shelter on the West Side of Lake ready to be fixed to the Penny-in-the slot meter, and tables have been erected in the open close by ready for Pic-nic parties. All being well hot water will be obtained at these gas stoves during the current week. Already a number of people have been making enquiries as to how & where they can get this "Hot-water".

### **Promotion for one of Park Staff**

I am pleased to report that W. J. Ing one of your young gardeners who has been employed in the Botanic Gardens for the past three years has been appointed foreman in the Royal Garden Hampton Court where he enters upon his duties today.

### **Victoria Park**

Since my last report the Drinking Fountain presented to your Committee by Louis Samuel Esq: has been erected and as soon as painted will be ready for opening to the public if so desired.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept:

Roath Park  
Cardiff  
26/9/08

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report for your consideration:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing Boxes**

The whole of the 61 Bathing Boxes at the Roath Park Lake were completed & painted by the 4th inst.

On the 5th ult. as about half of these were ready, it was thought advisable to utilize them as soon as possible. The completed boxes were therefor shut off from the uncompleted and a charge made to those desiring to use them. Up to the present time the sum of £8. 2. 6 has been derived from bathing box fees.

It may seem somewhat early to suggest that your Committee ought to go into the whole question of Bathing and the use of the Bathing Boxes at Roath Park without delay. Matters of this description if not dealt with some considerable time before a decision is actually needed are prone to be left to the last moment when perhaps there is not an opportunity of giving due consideration to the whole bearings of the case. As the present matter is very important and is one having a number of side issues connected with it which require serious consideration I think no time should be lost in devising and formulating a scheme for next years working.

#### **Band Performances**

The Band Season for 1908 came to a close on the 26th ult. Unfortunately this date turning out to be wet I had to cancel the performance. As many of the men connected with the engaged band had to lose half a days work the conductor was compelled to charge for their time and as a consequence only about 35% of the whole fee was remitted.

Taking the season through it has on the whole been a very successful one, and the climatic conditions proved very favorable. The sum of £83-6-10 was taken at Roath Park for the hire of chairs, indicating that during the season, 20,002 persons occupied chairs for some part of the Band performances. The sale of Programmes realized £18.5.0 while the advertisements thereon produced £5.10.0. The cost of printing amounted to £7.15.0 thus leaving a net return from Chairs & Programmes of £99.6.10 which is exactly £9.6.10 more than the amount estimated for.

#### **Games in Parks**

The Football Season commenced on the 19th inst. As some indication of the difficulty there is in satisfying the requirements of all the different Clubs, it maybe interesting for your Committee to know that at Llandaff Fields there are 9 Football pitches and already 321 applications have been made for their use during the season of 26 weeks, Roath Park where there are 6 pitches 300 applications have been made; at Splott Park 2 pitches and 120 applications; Canton Park 3 pitches & 55 applications; Grange Recreation Ground 4 pitches & 116 applications. A great many more

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

applications will be made during the coming months so it can readily be seen that Clubs cannot possibly get all the pitches they ask for and consequently there must be some disappointment which will no doubt find expression at some time or other during the season.

### **Accident on Lake**

On the 21st ult Mr Jones of 92 Angus Street, fell out of one of the pleasure boats into the Lake and was rescued by your boatman (Denison), none the worse for the accident.

### **Prosecution**

On the 25th ult: a person named James Laurence 46 years of age was sentenced by the Cardiff Magistrates to 3 months hard labour for indecently exposing himself in the Recreation Ground. He was arrested by one of your Park Keepers.

## **Splott Park**

### **New Bowling Green**

In accordance with your instructions I herewith present an estimate for the formation of a new Bowling Green at Splott Park.

I have selected some sea washed turf which is growing on the foreshore near the Park. As Lord Tredegars agents have intimated that they will offer no objections, Mr Williams the farmer has expressed his willingness to allow your Committee to have this turf provided he is paid an acknowledgement of £5/5/0 for the damage likely to be done to his fields.

I find it will cost £329.5.0 to lay down a new Green on the most approved lines. This sum is made up as follows:-

Cutting & Preparing Turf	8.0.0
Haulage of Turf	17.0.0
Fee for Damage to Fields	5.5.0
Excavating site 3' 0" all over	80.0.0
Filling up with Ballast, Ashes, Sand & preparation	169.0.0
Timbering Sides & Draining site	10.0.0
Laying Beating & Preparing Turf	40.0.0
	<hr/>
	329.5.0

As it is necessary to put this in hand at once if the Green is to be of any use next year, I shall be glad of your instructions whether or not to proceed with the work.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Work for Unemployed**

In accordance with a resolution passed by the City Council on the 21st inst, I beg to report – in connection with your special department – what I consider suitable work for the unemployed.

The Local Government Board has already been asked to grant a loan for laying out St Margarets Open Space, and if this money is shortly forthcoming a great amount of the unskilled labour might easily be carried out by the unemployed. The land adjoining Roath Brook recently presented to your Committee by Viscount Tredegar, requires levelling, & filling up, work which might also easily be done by the unemployed. Even in connection with the Bowling Green suggested for Splott the

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

excavating & rough work could be carried out by the aid of unemployed.

At Roath Park the banks of the Lake are year by year getting gradually washed away, and sooner or later the question must be faced, and the work of reclaiming the lost ground taken in hand. The Lake could easily be lowered during the coming winter and a good length of the sides stoned & filled up within the soil & vegetable deposit now lying in the bed of the Lake. This is also work which might readily be undertaken by unskilled labourers.

### **Need of Workmans Shelter in City Hall Gardens**

As you are no doubt aware a good deal of work has now to be carried on in connection with the Greens & Open Spaces in the vicinity of the City Hall. Unfortunately there is at present no shelter in any of these Gardens and the men have to take their meals in the open even during the most inclement weather.

In addition to this there is no place in which any tools can be left over night, the nearest place where this can be done being Howard Gardens. As a consequence of this the workmen can never commence work at Cathays Park first thing in the morning but have to meet at, & bring their tools from, Howard Gardens & return there again in the evening. This means that each man loses over half an hour a day in travelling backwards & forwards when working in these Open Spaces.

A small shelter similar to the one in use at Roath Park, would meet with all the requirements of the men and at the same time answer the purpose of a tool house. It would be of such an unpretentious character that it would hardly be noticed if placed near the bank of shrubs in the Gorsedd Gardens.

Probably one of the other Corporation Committees have such a shelter that they might be prepared to let you have on loan as in the case of the other shelters now in use at Victoria & Roath Parks.

### **Death of Mountain Sheep**

I am sorry to report that the Mountain Sheep belonging to the collection of animals at Victoria Park died on the 22nd ult:

### **Damage from Recent Gale**

With the exception of two Elm Trees & several large branches, which were blown down at Llandaff Fields, no very serious damage resulted in the Parks, from the recent Gales.

In addition to the actual damage done to the Elms at Llandaff Fields the effects of the wind can be seen on a number of larger branches where there are indications of splitting at the angles made by the branches & trunk. These may be saved from splitting off, for a number of years to come, if an iron rod (with flat plates on either side) is driven through the branches & trunk of the affected trees.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks: Dept:

Roath Park  
Cardiff  
17/10/08

[in pencil: submitted 1/2/09]

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks, Open Spaces etc Committee,

Gentlemen,

In accordance with Resolution 1866 passed at your last meeting, I beg to present for your consideration the following report on the question of the future use of the Bathing Boxes at Roath Park Lake:-

As you are no doubt thoroughly aware, the provision of Bathing Boxes has made it possible now, to grant much greater facilities to the public in the use, and enjoyment of the Lake than were previously at your command. Aquatic Sports, Water Carnivals, Swimming Exhibitions, etc are now quite feasible – attractions that hitherto have been entirely out of the question.

At the present time however, I only wish to deal with the matter of the boxes, in so far as their use for ordinary bathing purposes is concerned.

For the past fourteen years the Lake has been regularly used by bathers, every morning during the months of May, June, July, August, & September from 6 – till – 9. For the first few years of this period the numbers did not much exceed 8,000 or 9,000 per annum, but they have gradually increased until they have reached within the last year or so as many as 40,000.

At first those desirous of enjoying a dip in the Lake had to content themselves with bathing from the ordinary banks and leaving their clothes lying about on the bare ground. So popular however, did the bathing at the Lake become, that in 1900 your Committee undertook the expense of constructing a suitable Bathing stage, furnished with conveniently placed seats, and a good diving board. This was naturally regarded by the bathers at the time, as a very great boon, but not long afterwards they made representations to one and another of the Councillors, that the stage was incomplete without some covering, as in the event of rain or a cold wind there was nothing to protect them from it. The provision of such shelter however, was always felt to mean too great an expense for the Corporation to undertake when there could be no adequate return made for such an outlay.

With the advent of Band Chairs and games, and the apparent willingness of the public to pay for all exceptional facilities for enjoyment & additional comforts, your Committee felt that by providing better accommodation & greater facilities for bathing the bathers themselves would not object to pay. The result of the new policy has been as you are all aware the erection of the present exceedingly useful set of Bathing Boxes on the site of the site of the old Bathing Stage.

On the 6th of August – when practically the best part of the season was drawing to a close – about 30 boxes that were then completed were opened to the public, and a charge of 1d made to each person using them. A large number immediately availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered of bathing in comfort & ease, & by the 7th of October no less than 2179 persons had made use of them. A very pleasing feature in this connection is, that many of those bathers, who were at first antagonistic to the boxes were quite pleased with them when erected and have patronized them regularly ever since they have been opened.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Although 41,460 persons bathed in the Lake last season it is far from likely that next year such a number will use the boxes, for of course it will be necessary to keep the present boys place open & free to all comers as it has been in the past. It is only to be expected that a great number will prefer to bathe at this point – with all its inconveniences – rather than use the boxes & pay the necessary fee. Notwithstanding this, the experience of the past season points to the fact that a large percentage of the bathers will, in spite of the charge, make use of these boxes. Even with all the attendant inconvenience of workmen being about the stage for the greater part of the time the boxes were let, quite. 30% of the bathers during the months of August & September patronized the boxes. If your Committee can see its way to make a concession by the issue of Season Tickets I have no doubt that this percentage will be nearly doubled.

If it is your intention to make such a concession, it will be as well to remember that although the Bathing Season actually covers a period of 153 days, the most popular portion of it, is during June, July & August, a period of 91 days only. Thus if you charge say 7/6 for a Season Ticket you will be covering yourself for the busiest part of the season while at the same time you are giving an inducement of other 60 days free which may lead many to take up these tickets who might otherwise only come to the Lake for a part of the Season.

In addition to a Season Ticket for adults, I should suggest as a further means of extending the use of the boxes that a Schoolboys Season Ticket should be issued say at 3/6 for the 153 days. Many lads who might not care to pay a penny every time they came to bathe, would probably be prepared to buy a Season Ticket at the price suggested.

It may be as well to point out that such Season Tickets must be in the form of 153 small coupons (similar to the prepaid tickets issued by the Tramways Committee) one of which must of course be given up every time the holder uses the Bathing Stage. Needless to say these would not be transferable, and each coupon in addition to having a distinctive general letter would be numbered consecutively and none but those corresponding to the day would be accepted. Thus the 2nd of June being the 33rd day of the Bathing Season all Season ticket coupons used on that day would be numbered 33 and no ticket bearing any other number would be passed.

The reason I would suggest coupons in place of a single season ticket is in view of the fact that all persons using the Boxes will have to pass through a registering turnstile and it will therefor be necessary for the man in charge of the pay box to have something to indicate the number of Season Ticket Holders who pass through the stile without paying a penny. The Coupons together with the money taken at the turnstiles would be passed on to the City Treasurer each week and balanced up with the recorder at the end of each season.

I may say that after going into the question of Season Tickets carefully this is the only method that I can think of which would reduce the risks of mistakes or fraud to a minimum.

### **Ladies Bathing**

Ladies have applied since the provision of Bathing Boxes at Roath Park for permission to use the Lake for Bathing Purposes.

As the number likely to avail themselves of the opportunity of bathing at the Lake can hardly, for some time at least be very great I should suggest that the boxes be set aside two days a week – say from 10am till 1pm – for their special use. Of course if it were found, that a sufficient number of ladies turned up, to justify an extra day a week this could easily be managed. I should certainly not

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

advise issuing Season Tickets to ladies, at any rate for the first year, until it is seen how they will patronize the bathing.

### **Further Bathing Facilities for Men etc.**

Now that there are Dressing Boxes on the Bathing Stage no reason exists why further facilities should not be afforded to men for bathing during some additional part, or parts, of the day beyond the early morning hours. While most young men employed in Shops and Offices have an opportunity of bathing every morning before going to business, there is still a very large section of the community unable to avail themselves of these facilities as their hours of labour begin too early in the day. If two evenings a week – say from 6.30 to half an hour after sunset – were set aside for such persons I have no doubt that many who are now debarred from participating in the bathing would then be able to benefit by it.

I suggest that for the first year or so no Season Tickets be issued for all day or evening bathing as it will be necessary to have some idea of the number likely to avail themselves of the extended bathing time, before such a question can be finally decided. I should also suggest that after 9am all persons bathing should do so from the boxes and wear a regulation bathing suit adopted for the purpose by your Committee. It will be as well that you decide at this time whether, (if you allow bathing during the day) you will make a higher charge than that made for early morning bathing.

### **Supervision**

In the past the Swimming Expert, who is in charge of the bathing, is on duty each morning during the season from 6 till 9, and does not resume duty again till 2pm. On Sundays he does not take duty excepting during the hours of bathing. If in future Ladies are allowed to bathe, and evening bathing is to be permitted, it will become necessary to make a rearrangement of the experts hours of duty, and at the same time, give him some additional assistance.

What I recommend is that on the days when ladies are using the Lake, the Swimming Expert be granted an hours rest between the time of the termination of the Morning bathing, and the beginning of the ladies bathing, and when the latter is brought to a close he should be allowed to leave the Park till 6pm. In the interval if much boating were taking place on the Lake a special man would be put on duty in a boat, to regulate the traffic, and keep a sharp look out for accidents. Then again, during evening bathing a man would need be told off to look after the boating while the expert was attending to the bathers.

With regard to the kind of person who should be put in charge of the pay box, I think it is my duty to point out that, while a lad at a small wage would be perfectly capable of taking the fees etc, it would under the circumstances be very much better to have one of your Park Keepers, to look after this as he would be able to render much greater assistance in case of an accident than any mere boy could possibly be able to render. A man with a little training and endowed with presence of mind might be the means of saving valuable lives where an inexperienced boy might be worse than useless.

The person on duty in the pay box would have exactly the same hours as the Swimming Expert & if he should happen to be a Park Keeper it would be necessary to find a substitute to carry on his duties during his absence.

If bathing during the day is to be permitted I should advise that a very restricted area – marked off

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

by buoys – be set aside for this purpose. During the times ladies are bathing it will be well to have very many more life buoys floating about than during the time of morning bathing.

While it might be unadvisable to make a strong bid for the supply of towels & bathing suits at the Lake yet I think it would be advantageous to have a few towels & suits always at hand for the convenience of casual visitors who could be charged a reasonable sum for their use.

### **Additional apparatus etc**

If you decide to develop the bathing on the lines herein suggested it will be necessary to go in for some additional apparatus. In the first place I would suggest that about 3 dozen additional Life Buoys, in different sizes be purchased. I also think another boat ought to be moored alongside the pay office so that the person in charge might the easier render immediate assistance to the Expert, should any swimmer be in extremities.

To add to the facilities for diving etc I think it would be as well to have two diving boards fixed at either end of the stage and one diving platform in the centre. These could be put up at a very small cost.

It would be wise to have a few of the Royal Humane Society's Instructions for the treatment of the Apparently Drowned, posted up in each dressing box and a small life buoy hung up here & there on the outside of the boxes along the length of the stage.

### **Rules & Regulations**

I have drawn up the following simple Rules & Regulations, for your consideration:-

- 1** No person shall enter upon, or quit the Bathing Stage unless by the turnstiles provided as the means of entrance to, & egress from, the Bathing Stage.
- 2** No person shall use the Bathing Stage excepting during such hours as the Lake may be set aside, from time to time, by the Corporation, for bathing purposes.
- 3** No person shall bathe in the Lake at any time without proper bathing drawers & no one shall bathe after 9am unless attired in a regulation Bathing Suit duly approved by the Corporation.
- 4** After 9am no person shall undress, or dress, excepting within the dressing boxes provided for the purpose. Neither shall any person unless properly attired expose himself on the Bathing Stage for any purpose whatsoever.
- 5** After 9am no person shall swim beyond the line of buoys marking the area restricted for bathing, and no person shall get in or out of the water excepting at the Bathing Stage.
- 6** No person who is not in danger shall shout, whistle, gesticulate or in any other manner draw special attention to himself, or in any way make himself a nuisance to other bathers or onlookers.
- 7** No person shall interfere with, or molest persons using the pleasure boats. Neither shall any person bathe from a boat after 9am.
- 8** No person shall enter, or remain in the water after the attendant has given the signal that bathing shall cease.

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

**9** No person shall use soap or other similar solvent or in any way pollute the water.

**10** No person shall write, stamp, cut, draw, print, or mark in any manner any word or character, or any representation of any object, on any part of the doors, walls or seats of the Bathing Boxes.

**NB** The Corporation does not undertake to provide a dressing box for each individual bather.

The Corporation does not hold itself responsible for any articles which may be lost unless they have been handed over to the custody of the man in charge of the Pay Box.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept:

Roath Park  
Cardiff  
24/10/08

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks, Open Spaces etc Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

**Roath Park**

**Bathing in Lake**

As the first few days in October were so warm & summer like I permitted bathing to continue until the 8th inst, instead of stopping it on the 30th September as in all former years.

I may say that no additional expense was incurred by your Committee in granting this extension of time as I let it be generally understood by the bathers that as soon as the numbers using the Bathing Boxes went below 36 I should put a stop to bathing as we would then be carrying it on at a loss. On the 7th inst only 30 bathers used the dressing boxes & on the following day notice was given that bathing would not be permitted again until the next year.

During the past season 41,460 persons bathed in the Lake and with the exception of the one bathing fatality every thing passed off very satisfactorily.

**Games**

The Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts were closed for the season on the 1st inst. Although the weather was so exceptionally fine at that time it would have been most unwise to have allowed any play to take place on your greens after the end of September. As it was more damage was done to the Greens & Tennis Courts during the last fortnight of the season than during any other period of the year. This was accounted for by the abnormally moist condition of the atmosphere prevailing at the time.

I am pleased to report that the season has been a most successful one, and the financial returns as a consequence have been thoroughly satisfactory.

It is gratifying to be able to report that I have handed over to the City Treasurer during the season the sum of £260-8-3 being the amount derived from the Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts in the various Parks where these are in existence. In addition to this, £35.5.11 has also been paid in being the income received from the higher out of Galoshes at the Bowling Greens.

These two sums are made up as follows:-

	<b>Roath Park</b>	<b>Victoria Park</b>	<b>Splott Park</b>
Bowls	58.15.2	29.9.5	26.7.0
Tennis	54.2.8	20.14.8	9.14.8
Galoshes	16.9.6	8.2.1	7.6.0

	<b>Grange Gardens</b>	<b>Howard Gardens</b>
Bowls	27.19.5	---
Tennis	12.17.10	20.7.5

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Galoshes

3.8.4

----

It will be gathered from these figures that no less than 34,092 persons paid for a game of Bowls on one or other of your Public Greens, while 14,143 persons paid for the use of the Tennis Courts.

### **Child Injured by Barb Wire**

I have to report that on the 6th inst Mr. G. A. Faulks, of 9 Llanbleddian Gardens wrote to me complaining that his little boy had cut his hand on the previous day with some Barb Wire which was placed on the fencing surrounding one of the plantations in the Recreation Ground. He further intimated that he would hold me personally responsible for the accident.

I immediately replied informing him that his complaint would be brought before your next meeting and I then handed his letter over to the Town Clerk.

### **Chrysanthemum Display**

As the Chrysanthemums at Roath Park will be sufficiently developed by next Sunday I propose to open the Chrysanthemum House to the public from that day on, during specified hours, until the Chrysanthemums are over. The same arrangements will be made this year as last for carrying on the display.

## **Splott Park**

### **Trespass on Splott Farm**

In accordance with your instructions I have gone into the question of the cost likely to be incurred in adding two rows of barb wire to the top of the fence at Splott Park so as to prevent boys from climbing over it on to Mr Williams land. I find that to make anything like a satisfactory job of this the cost for material making & fixing will amount to £12.14.0.

## **Canton Park**

### **Football Club Refusing to play on Pitch allocated**

I have to report that on the 10th inst the Canton Wanderers Football Club refused to play on the ground for which they had received a permit but took possession of a pitch which another Club had received permission to play upon. I shall be glad of your instructions what to do in this matter.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept

Roath Park  
Cardiff

30/11/08

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee etc

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following monthly report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Unemployed**

Since the 9th inst the Cardiff Distress Committee has supplied your Committee with, and paid for, the services of about 40 men. Some of these have been employed at Splott Park while others have been engaged at Roath Park. By means of these men your Committee has been enabled to lay out a new Nursery Ground and form several new Flower Borders – work which could not otherwise have been undertaken at this time.

In addition to this work the “Unemployed” have been engaged in reclaiming some of the banks which have been washed away at the edge of the Lake on the east side just beyond the Boys Bathing Ground. About 100 yards of pitching has been built up at this point and a strip of ground varying from 3 to 7 yards in width has been filled up between this pitching and the footpath. The filling material has been taken from the bed of the lake. The stone used for making the dry wall – about 50 tons in weight – has been obtained from the adjoining quarry and has cost your Department the sum of 9d per ton in addition to the cost of quarrying and haulage. The cost of this and the wages of the foreman supervising the workmen is the only outlay, which falls upon this Committee in carry out this useful & necessary work.

#### **Flooding Recreation Ground during Frost**

At the beginning of this year I reported that in consequence of a number of suggestions made to me by several residents as to the possibility of flooding the Recreation Ground in the winter for the purposes of skating I had two schemes to lay before you in due course whereby this could be done. I however pointed out at the time, that the flooding of this ground would not only prevent the playing of football during the time it was flooded but for some time after the ground would be unfit for play. I further pointed out that the grass in the Childrens Playground and wherever it was covered by water would be considerably damaged.

If it should be decided to flood the upper portion of the Recreation Ground it could easily be done by throwing a dam, composed of a wooden frame filled with clay, across the brook between the Alder Road bridge & the foot-bridge at the N.E. corner of the Park. To construct and erect such a dam in anything like a satisfactory manner would cost £12 and would of course only be of a temporary character & would have to be removed when finished with. By tarring the timber & storing it, it could be used at a future for any similar purpose.

The other method of flooding this ground is by continuing the 3" service main of Lake water from the Pleasure Gardens for a distance of about 200 feet into the Recreation Ground. The laying of this main would cost about £20.

In carrying out either scheme about 500' 0" of 12" x 3" deal planking would be required to restrict

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

the water to the area you might set aside for skating purposes. These with the cost of fixing would run into another £11-0-0. By damming the brook the flooding could be carried out much more rapidly than by means of the main, but the latter would be the much more economical of the two methods in the long run.

### **Chrysanthemum Display**

Since the 1st inst the Chrysanthemum House at Roath Park has been open each day from 2 p.m till 4.30 p.m and during that period no less than 12,000 visitors have availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing your collection of plants. In addition to this number over 500 School Children have been taken through the house by their teachers.

## **Victoria Park**

### **Painting Railings**

On the 23rd inst a number of painters recommended by the Distress Committee started painting the Boundary Fence of this Park. These men are paid the ordinary trade rates but only work during the hours specified by the Distress Committee and are engaged for one week at a time. The money for carrying out this work is provided by your Committee a sum of £50 having been included in the current estimates for this purpose. The weather having been on the whole very favourable for outside painting good progress has been made with this work.

### **Tennis Courts**

The Tennis Courts in this park are in a very bad condition and require thorough draining before they can be of much use to players. I shall be glad of your instructions to purchase 100 loads of ashes so as to carry out this work during the coming winter.

## **Splott Park**

### **Formation of Bowling Green**

On the 5th inst the laying out of the Bowling Green at Splott Park was commenced since which time about twenty labourers supplied by the Distress Committee have been engaged on this work.

The site has been excavated all over for a depth of 2'6" and has now been drained and about half the area covered with 6" of rough ashes. If the Contractor were to deliver the ashes as quickly as we could take them the turfing could be put in hand next week and a good part of the Green laid before Christmas. I am pleased to report that sea-washed turf has been secured from the foreshore at Splott Farm for this Green and it has been delivered on the site ready for use, by the tenant of the Farm.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew

Roath Park  
Cardiff

22 /1/09

To the Chairman & Members of Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Widening Lake Embankment**

On the 4th inst the City Engineer commenced the work of widening the Lake Embankment at Roath Park. This has been carried out with such dispatch, that by the end of the current week the whole work will have been completed with the exception of the Asphaltting, which must of necessity be left in abeyance till the advent of warmer weather. The public will again have access to the embankment within the next ten days.

#### **Reclaiming & Pitching Sides of Lake**

The edge of the east bank of the Lake has since my last report, been pitched for its whole length and a good deal of the ground which from time to time has been washed away has been reclaimed and raised considerably above water level with siltage etc taken from the bed of the Lake.

#### **Painting Railings**

For the past four weeks about 30 men have been employed at scraping & painting the railings surrounding the Recreation Ground. These men – like those previously employed on similar work at Victoria Park – only work one week at a time and have been engaged through the Distress Committee.

The whole of the money set aside in the present estimates for this purpose is now exhausted so that it will be necessary to bring this work to a close after this week.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Relaying Tennis Courts**

Since the 11 inst about half of these Tennis Courts have been taken up and relaid on a bed of 3" of ashes so as to ensure their being drier than they have been in the past. I hope to have the five courts completed within the next fortnight.

### **Splott Park**

#### **New Bowling Green**

I am pleased to report that the last of the turf was laid on this green on the 9th inst the earliest date upon which we have as yet completed a Bowling Green in your Parks. Every care has been taken in the construction of this green & I am hoping it may prove to be one of the best under your charge.

As reported at your last meeting the site of the green had to be excavated to a depth of 2'6". This surplus soil was tipped on the ground which has been used for the past two seasons as tennis courts. The whole of it has now been levelled & turfed and provides sufficient room for four full size courts which will be greatly appreciated in the Splott neighbourhood.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

### **Waterloo Gardens**

#### **Iron Railings**

I am pleased to be able to report that the construction of the iron railings for fencing in these gardens is now well in hand, and I hope to commence erecting the same next week.

#### **Laying out the Ground**

Owing to the large number of the unemployed that the Distress Committee has at present to deal with I have thought it expedient to commence laying out the Waterloo Gardens without further delay and have today started twelve men on this work. For many reasons it would have been better to have deferred taking this step until the land had been fenced in, but knowing your Committee's desire to assist the Distress Committee in its labours as much as possible, I thought it advisable after consultation with your Chairman to put this work in hand forthwith.

### **Miscellaneous Matters**

#### **Gifts**

I have to report a gift of a large perch & several small pike for the Aquarium, from Mr Fred Brockington. Also of a fox and small East Indian Monkey for the Victoria Zoo: presented respectively by Mr Taylor of [blank space] and Mr Richards of Whitchurch

#### **Protection of Children Act**

I beg to call your Committee's attention to the fact that on the 1st inst an Act came into force which gives Park Keepers in uniform, together with other officers, the power of searching boys under the age of 16, whom they may see smoking cigarettes etc, and the right to take from them any tobacco they may have in their possession. I shall be glad of your instructions as to whether you wish such proceedings to be taken by your Park Keepers while on duty in the Parks.

#### **Childrens Playground Blackweir**

As you are no doubt aware this ground is at present covered over with heaps of soil & rubbish and is totally unfit for a playground, hence it has been found necessary to start ten of the "unemployed" today to put it into a suitable condition.

In addition to levelling the ground I am afraid it will be necessary for your committee at an early date to erect some iron fencing to keep the users of the ground from getting on the Railway. A single loop line from the Taff Vale Railway passes through a part of the ground & is quite unfenced.

**Chrysanthemum Display** During the months of November & December 14,931 persons visited the Chrysanthemum House at Roath Park.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
John Chappell

Roath Park  
Cardiff

22/2/09

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following monthly report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Pruning Shrubs**

Since my last report the Laurels - of which the shrubberies in the Pleasure Gardens are principally composed – in the border running parallel with Ninian Rd. have all been cut back. This work had become necessary on account of the shrubs being overgrown & unsightly, and although the shrubberies appear bare & open now they will soon be covered again with new growth & will be very much improved in every way.

#### **Display of Cinerarias**

During the past two Sundays a small floral display consisting of Cinerarias & Schizanthus has been made in the Chrysanthemum House. Judging by the fact that although it was only open from 2 till 4.30 p.m on each of the two days, over 3,500 persons passed through the house the display was thoroughly appreciated by the public.

As this house is now required for propagating purposes no further displays can be made at this time and I therefore suggest that the Cinerarias not yet over be sent on the the Sanatorium

#### **Alleged Assault on a School Teacher**

In case some members of your Committee noticed a report in the Saturday Evening papers of an alleged assault upon a teacher during the progress of a boys match in the Recreation Ground on Saturday morning I have thought it advisable to refer to it in my report. As however the case will probably come before the Police Court and may therefor be regarded at present as sub\_judice I do not wish to say anything further upon the matter, beyond the fact that the Park Keepers report does not coincide with the account given in the press.

### **Waterloo Gardens**

#### **Laying out Grounds**

As reported at your last meeting the laying out of these gardens was commenced on the 26 ult. Since that date from 15 to 20 men have been regularly employed on this ground, and taking into consideration the class of workmen engaged – mostly deal carriers [timber handlers in docks] supplied through the Distress Committee – very good progress has been made.

The stone & iron fencing previously surrounding the Roath Green is now being fixed along the boundary of Waterloo Gardens abutting on Church Terrace and the erection of this section will be completed during the current week.

#### **Making Iron Railings**

As it has become imperative that the construction of the Iron Fence be completed and its erection proceeded with immediately I have found it necessary to put on a double shift of workmen, so that at present work is going on night & day in your smiths shop. By this means you are enabled to find

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

work for ten men instead of five in your smiths shop.

### **Brook Gardens**

#### **Iron Railings**

The whole of the iron ordered for the construction of the fence for the Roath Brook Gardens was delivered at your Roath Park Depot on the 18th inst. As soon as the other fencing has been put out of hand the new work will be proceeded with.

### **New Open Space Cathays Park**

On the 25th ult the Property and Markets Committee accepted a plan & estimate that I submitted to them for the laying out of the open space at the north end of the City Hall covering an area of nearly 5½ acres.

The laying out of this ground was commenced under my supervision on the 8th inst by the “unemployed” supplied by the Distress Committee.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Tennis Courts**

The relaying of these courts has now been completed and a very considerable improvement has been achieved at a very small cost.

#### **Animal Pens**

The erection of these is now being proceeded with and I hope by the end of next month to have the whole of them in readiness for the reception of the animals.

#### **Injury to Attendant**

I am sorry to report that the person who looks after the animals at Victoria Park was so badly injured by one of the monkeys on the 6th inst that he had to have seven stitches put into the calf of his leg and has been confined to his home & under medical treatment ever since.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Painting Railings**

As close upon £200 have been spent during the present winter on the painting of Railings in the Parks Department, I think it only right in view of the unfavourable report I made last year on winter painting to say that this season it has proved to be thoroughly satisfactory. The fact is that the success of painting does not as much depend on the period of the year during which it is done, as upon the climatic conditions obtaining at the time. This year instead of experiencing damp foggy weather while the painting was in progress we had cold dry weather with result that the paint dried upon the iron and has become quite hard and will probably wear much better than paint put on during hot dry weather.

I have the honor to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew

Roath Park  
Cardiff

24/4/09

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Lake Embankment Promenade**

Since the beginning of the present month the Public Works Department has been carrying out the Asphalting of the footpath running across the Lake Embankment. This work will in all probability be brought to a close by the end of the present week after which the path will be thrown open again to the public.

#### **Fish Hatchery and Fishing**

I am pleased to be able to report that the Trout Rearing at your Hatchery has so far been very successful this season. On the 2nd inst we disposed of 5000 fry to a gentleman in Gloucestershire and a few days later over 25000 were turned out into various shallow parts of the Lake. Your Committee will no doubt be gratified to learn that during the financial year ending 31st of March 1909, fish to the value of £70 have been sold from your Roath Park Hatchery.

On the 1st inst the Marquis and Marchioness of Bute paid a visit to the Hatchery and Rearing Ponds and Lake and were very much interested in what they saw at the Park.

The fishing in the Lake has been very good this season and up to date over 100 Season Tickets and 14 Day Tickets have been sold.

#### **Bank Holidays**

With the exception of East Monday and Tuesday the Parks were all well patronised during the recent holidays. Everything passed off very satisfactorily, and neither any accidents nor any acts of ro[w]dyism were reported at my office. The fact that the Refreshment Rooms were not open on Good Friday was adversely commented upon by a great number of visitors who thought that some provision should have been made for their wants on such a day.

Unfortunately Easter Monday turned out wet, so that comparatively few persons visited the parks on that date. The Cardiff Military Band played from 3 till 5 during the afternoon at Roath Park but owing to the inclemency of the weather very few people availed themselves of the opportunity of using the seats with the Band Enclosure.

The Automatic Chocolate Machines – the property of your tenant – fixed outside the Refreshment Rooms were broken open between 8 p.m. on the 12th and 6 a.m. on the 13th inst. As the money had all been cleared from the machines by the owner a few hours prior to their being broken open, the thieves were able to get nothing further than the boxes of chocolate with which the machines were loaded. So far no information has been forthcoming as to the identity of the culprits.

#### **Boating Stage**

I have received several complains from the Boatman regarding the very dangerous condition of the

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Boat Stage and have compelled to send a carpenter on two occasions to repair the staging where it has fallen in. Mr Rees – one of the partners in the firm of boatmen – alleges that the man in his employ fell and received serious injuries to his arm in consequence of his feet getting caught in one of the rotten pieces of timber on the stage.

I feel convinced that unless your Committee is prepared to renovate a considerable portion of the Boat Stage at a very early date there will be some serious compensation cases to be dealt with before this year is out.

### **Bowling Greens and Tennis Courts**

In accordance with your rules the Bowling Greens and Tennis Courts should be thrown open for play on Saturday next the 1st of May. As this has been an exceptionally late season, I should however strongly advise deferring the opening of these for at least another week. The turf at the present moment is soft and in such a condition that it would be very easily injured even if only moderately used.

I would recommend your committee not to think of opening the new Bowling Green at Splott Park before the 1st of June as it can hardly be in a fit condition for play before that date.

A Bicycle Rack, capable of holding about 30 machines will shortly be erected on the spare piece of ground outside the Bowl House at Roath Park and I shall be glad to know whether you propose to charge cyclists for the use of this rack or let them have it free.

### **Bands**

As the Band Season opens on the 26th prox it will be advisable to appoint a Sub. Committee as on former years to select bands and draw up a rota forthwith. It will also save time if a resolution is passed at todays meeting authorising the City Treasurer to pay all Band accounts as soon as they have been certified and signed by me.

### **Tenders for Supply of Bands etc**

The consideration of several letters laid before you at your last meeting was deferred until the present meeting so as to enable me to present you with a report upon them.

These letters consisted of:-

(1) An offer from Messers Jackson & Co of Grimsby to book dates for some of the best English Bands to play in your Parks during the coming season.

The only comment I have to make regarding this offer is that under existing conditions it would be unadvisable to pay large sums of money for single Band Performances as any revenue derived from the sale of programmes and the letting of chairs would be perfectly inadequate to make up for the extra expense involved.

Perhaps when your New ByeLaws come into force and you are enabled to close your Parks and charge for admission on the occasion of a visit from a famous band you may be able to consider such an offer but at present it should not be entertained.

(2) A letter from Mr Oscar Mills asking to be allowed to give entertainments with a concert Party in your parks from May until September. He states that he is willing either to pay a weekly rent or 20% of his gross receipts for this privilege.

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

I should certainly advise your Committee to refuse this application. In the first place the suggested arrangements are not for the best interests of the public frequenting the Park. At present your Committee pays all persons giving entertainments and can and does dictate what kind of programme is to be gone through, whereas once these persons are your tenants or co-partners and the whole thing becomes a question of money making you will almost be powerless to direct these matters. In addition to this the concert Party form of entertainment is not the most suitable for park purposes.

(3) An application from Mr M. W. Shanby asking to be allowed to cater for the supply of Chairs to the public using same in your Parks. He also is prepared to pay a rent for this privilege or 50% of his gross receipts.

I strongly advise your Committee not to entertain this application as by accepting a tenant of this description you would be introducing another money making concern into your parks and would undoubtedly be making further trouble for yourselves.

The fewer private money making interests you allow to be come established in your public parks the better it is for visitors.

In addition I may point out that you have already a good number of chairs which would have to be disposed of – probably at a considerable loss – were you to let a contractor have the hiring out of Chairs in the Parks.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

24. May 1909

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing**

The bathing season commenced on the 1st inst but owing to the cold weather experienced during the early part of the month, the numbers availing themselves of the opportunity of swimming in the Lake have not been so great as on many former occasions.

Evening Bathing which has been inaugurated for the first time this Season has proved not merely a boon to swimmers themselves, but a decided attraction to visitors who thoroughly enjoy watching the bathers disporting themselves in the water.

Owing to the unfavourable weather at the beginning of the month, the season tickets for bathing have not taken so well as might otherwise have the case. Up to date 11 boys and 10 adults tickets have been sold. For the same reason bathing from 10 till 2 did not take on and it was found advisable to discontinue it until the warmer weather set in. I propose to re-commence opening the Lake for the mid-day swimming on Whit Monday when no doubt plenty of visitors will be pleased to avail themselves of the opportunity of a dip in the Lake.

So far I have not been able to set aside a day for Ladies but hope to get into communication with the Secretaries of some of the Ladies Swimming Clubs in the neighbourhood during the present week so that the necessary arrangements may be made. On Saturday three girls from the Council Schools were allowed to bathe under the supervision of Miss Kinghorne from the Stage and these are the first girls who have ever bathed in the Lake.

Up to this morning 1677 persons have passed through the turnstiles.

Now that everything is in working order at the Bathing Stage, I think it would be advisable to have a notice in the Tram-cars running to Roath Park giving particulars as to charges and hours of bathing in the Park.

#### **Cricket Pitches**

I regret to report that owing to the fact that no re-turfing was done on the cricket pitches this spring, and that the weather has been so dry of late that rolling has been absolutely useless, the whole of the pitches are in a worse condition than they have been for a number of years past. Should we get rain shortly, I should have a heavy roller used on these in the hope of improving them for play.

#### **Dust Nuisance**

The recent dry weather has caused the dust from the roads around that portion of the Park situated outside the City Boundaries (where water carts are never used) to be a great nuisance to visitors. When a motor car passes along either of the roads outside the Park, the whole place remains under a cloud of dust for a considerable time afterwards. If by any means a tar sprayer could be used on

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

some parts of these roads it would be a boon to the great number of visitors frequenting the Park.

### **Sploott Park**

#### **Need of Shelters**

Complaints have been made by several visitors to this Park regarding the lack of shelter, and as provision was made for two of these in the original scheme for laying out the Park, it may be as well to ask the City Engineer to purchase to prepare plans and estimates for your next meeting.

#### **Drinking Fountain**

The Drinking Fountain presented to your Council for this Park has now been erected and will be ready for opening in the course of a fortnight or so.

### **Llandaff Fields**

#### **Telephone Pole**

As instructed I have visited the site where the Telephone Co. are desirous of erecting a pole in the Llandaff Fields. As this is in the small wood at the end of Mill Lane, I do not think it advisable to give the permission desired, for if the branches of the trees interfere with the wires, a request will soon be forthcoming asking to have these lopped off. It is as well now that you have cleared away all the Telephone poles from these Fields, not to allow any more to be placed in them.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

28 June 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing**

Owing to the unseasonable weather experienced since the beginning of May comparatively few persons have bathed in the Lake up to the present. During the month of June last year there were no less than 13000 bathers at the Lake whereas during the whole of this season the number has only reached 5,719 but of this total 4,371 have used the bathing boxes.

#### **Floral Clock etc**

At your last meeting you referred the letter of Mr. T. J. Reardon on this subject to me for a report thereon.

While you have such attractions at Roath Park as your Lake with its facilities for Boating Bathing and Fishing, your Pleasure Gardens with their provision for Bowls, Tennis and other games and your Botanic Garden and Wild Garden, with their natural beauties and their wealth of plant life, there is no need in my humble opinion to introduce into the Park such puerile inventions as floral clocks or floral representations of your City Hall and Law Courts. Persons anxious to know the time of day are freely catered for in Cardiff with those desirous of getting an idea of the magnificence of the City Hall and Law Courts can easily see the real structures without requiring to visit the Parks to see them in caricature in a flower bed. It seems to me that it would be as reasonable for your correspondent to suggest to the Authorities in charge of the National Picture Gallery the advisability of popularising that institution by the introduction of Marionettes or a Punch and Judy Show, as to suggest floral clocks etc as an additional charm at your Roath Park.

#### **Refreshment Rooms**

I regret having to report that these rooms were broken in to between 9-30p.m. on Friday and 6- a.m. on Saturday. So far no clue has been obtained as to the identity of the culprits. This is the tenth time these rooms have been entered in this manner.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Use of Shelters by Children**

My attention has been drawn to the fact that the Shelters at Victoria Park are used mainly as play places by children who keep running backwards and forwards from one Shelter to another. Owing to this fact elderly persons and invalids for whom these places were more or less intended are almost debarred from making use of them. The habits of these children (who come mostly from the lower districts of Canton) and the expressions they continually make use of in their ordinary conversation are such as to make it quite impossible for decent people to sit by them.

Whilst it is absolutely necessary for your Committee to safeguard the rights and privileges of all classes of visitors to the Parks, I certainly think that where any class of visitors behave in the Shelters as they do at Victoria Park, they ought to be prohibited from entering them at all. I shall be

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

glad of your instructions on this matter.

#### **Presentations**

On the [blank space] inst Mr. Jellings, Bute Docks, Cardiff presented a large Macaw to the Victoria Park and on the 18th inst Mr. Maddison of 5 Smeaton St. also presented a West African Monkey.

#### **Miscellaneous**

The Drinking Fountains at Splott Park and Grange Gardens presented by I Samuel Esq. are ready for opening at any time your Committee may now decide.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Page 80

[Pages 78 and 79 are not present]

Roath Park  
Cardiff

26 July 1909

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

**Roath Park**

**Aquatic Gala**

On the 14th inst by the permission of your Committee an Aquatic Gala and Sports held under the auspices of the Cardiff City Police Swimming Club took place in the Lake section of the Roath Park.

On account of these Sports the Botanical and Lake sections of the Park were, between the hours of 2 and 7 p.m. only accessible to the public on payment of an entrance fee. Fortunately the day was fine and the whole affair turned out a grand success there being very little short of 10,000 onlookers present. I am pleased to report that not a single mishap took place and not the slightest damage done to your property.

As an experiment of what can be done in the way of making greater use of your lake the Water Gala was thoroughly satisfactory even from a monetary standpoint for I have been informed unofficially that a sum of close on £60 will be handed over to the Parks Department as the Corporation's share in the proceeds.

It was quite obvious however to those present during the afternoon of the 14th inst that under existing conditions such a large crowd could hardly ever again be brought together to view an aquatic display at Roath Park Lake for hardly more than half of the spectators were able to get anything but a glimpse of the various events carried out of the water. Before such amusements can become popular at your Park, it will be absolutely necessary to have some kind of moveable grand stand constructed which can be erected on the Lake Embankment when required. With this object in view I would respectfully suggest that the money paid over by the Committee of the Athletic Club be set aside as a nucleus for the provision of some such stand.

Another lesson learnt on the present occasion was that in future it will be necessary during the progress of such sports to have the course roped off to prevent boats getting in the way. Much of the pleasure of the Spectators on the banks was spoiled by the selfishness of the persons in boats who frequently came between the competitors and onlookers. This kind of thing must be stopped in future.

**Bathing etc**

I am sorry to say that owing to the continued uncongenial weather experienced since my last report, the bathing receipts have not improved. Up to date 7,481 persons have bathed from the stage.

For the same reason the receipts from games have not been so good as they should have been had better climatic conditions obtained.

***Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports***

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt. Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

23 October 1909

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks Open Spaces, etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing**

The Bathing Season was brought to a close on the 30 ult. This year over 21,000 bathers made use of the Lake of which 15,848 bathed from the enclosed stage. I am pleased to be able to report once again, that no serious accident occurred on the Lake during the past season.

The cold dull weather experienced during the greater part of the summer was such as to prevent a large number of persons from making use of Bathing Boxes who might otherwise have done so. Notwithstanding the unfavourable climatic conditions, I am pleased to report that the sum of £85-13-7 has been paid over to the City Treasurer for bathing fees, and £24 10 7 for the hire of towels and costumes. In addition to these sums, £113-6-1 has been handed over to the City Treasurer as a result of the two Galas held at the Lake during the past season.

#### **Bowling & Tennis**

It will no doubt be of interest to your Committee to know that the receipts from games in your Parks are steadily increasing. Last year an income of £97-19-10 was derived from the game of Tennis; this year the amount has reached £119-15-0 and this notwithstanding the Pageant, which was responsible for drawing away very many of the players during the best part of the season. In 1908 the income from the Bowling Greens was £144-2-1, while this year it has gone up to £151-2-6. The hiring out of goloshes has during the past season brought in a sum over £42.

#### **Chrysanthemum Display**

As the Chrysanthemums are further forward this year than they were in the two previous years, the house was opened to the Public yesterday – a week earlier than was the case last season. The damp cold season has had a very bad effect on these plants, and it is to be feared that the present display will not be so good as formerly.

#### **Sale of Ducks**

I shall be glad of your instructions to dispose of between 50 & 60 of the ducks from the Lake during the next month. In the past it has been customary to charge 4/- per pair for the mallards, & from 5/- to 6/- for the moscovies. As these are very reasonable charges, there seems to be no reason for changing them this season, but I shall be glad of your instructions hereon.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Presentation of Eagle**

On the 22nd ult, Capt Tweedy of the S. S. Enidwen presented your Committee with a young Russian Eagle. Although not in the best of condition when received, it has since improved very considerably, and is now quite lively & playful in its new quarters.

#### **Presentation of Geese**

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

(These have been placed on Roath Park Lake)

R F Forister Walker Esq. also made a presentation of 3 valuable geese to your Committee on the 14th of Aug last.

**Grange Gardens**

**Re-forming Bowling Green**

According to your instructions, I have prepared an estimate for constructing a new Bowling Green on the site of the present one at these Gardens. As it will be necessary to excavate the site 3' 0" all over, & to have the excavated material away to a tip about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile distant, the expenditure will be much greater than in the case of any other green previously laid down by your Committee. In estimating the cost of turf, I have done so on the assumption that it will have to be taken from Splott Farm. If however the turf can be obtained in the immediate neighbourhood of Grange, and the excavated material disposed of in or around the Gardens, over £100 can be deducted from the total estimate of £418. The following is a detailed statement of the estimate in question:-

Estimate  
for  
Laying down New Bowling Green  
at Grange Gardens on the site of  
Present Green

Excavating site 3'0"	80	0	0
Hauling material away	70	0	0
Draining Site	5	0	0
Covering excavated site 4" Ashes	42	0	0
Screening & filling in Ashes	34	0	0
Levelling & Rolling	15	0	0
Sand for covering to a Depth of 2"	27	0	0
Wooden edging for Green	7	0	0
Purchase of Turf	25	0	0
Cutting Turf & Hauling same	20	0	0
Preparing & laying Turf	55	0	0
Contingencies 10%	38	0	0
	<hr/>		
	418	0	0
	<hr/>		

I have the honor to be,  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

24/1/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Unemployed**

Since the 13th ult from 35 to 40 men have been engaged by the Distress Committee from week to week upon the work of reclaiming the worn away edge of the banks on the west side of the Lake and also in Constructing earth terraces abutting upon Bathing Boxes on the east side of the Lake. It is proposed to utilize these terraces as a grand-stand on the occasion of Aquatic Sports being held at the Park hence the reason for putting this work in hand. Considering the inclement weather experienced during the past six weeks, the class of labour engaged upon the work, and the fact that the same men are not employed for two weeks in succession very fair progress has been made in carrying out these improvements.

### **Grange Gardens**

#### **Bowling Green**

On the 13th ult. 24 men were employed through the Distress Committee to excavate the site of the Old Bowling Green down to the solid clay, since which time a similar number has been employed week by week.

Unfortunately a deep ditch (about 120' 0" long by 21' 0" wide) was discovered in the middle of the site. As this was in some places about 7' 0" below the old level it has necessitated the removal of a considerable quantity of extra material. I am pleased to say that the whole of the loose material and refuse has been cleared away and I hope to have the ditch filed in and a quantity of the hard ashes laid down for the foundation during the current week.

Advantage has been taken of the surplus material from the old Bowling Green to fill up the hollows in these Gardens. During recent years these have sunk very badly in places but they have now been greatly improved.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt. Parks Dept.  
A Good

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Page 90

[Pages 88 and 89 are not present]

Roath Park  
Cardiff

28/2/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Reclaiming Banks of the Lake**

The whole of the bank on the West side of the Lake has now been pitched and the greater part of the reclaimed ground levelled up with material from the bed of the Lake. I hope to have all the filling in completed during the current week.

The greater portion of the terrace on the East Bank of the Lake has now been pitched and the formation of the series of steps will be proceeded with at once and the whole finished before the middle of next Month. The construction of the terrace on the West Side overlooking the By Wash is now being proceeded with and the completion of this will bring the work for the Unemployed this Winter to a close.

#### **Fishing Season**

Trout fishing commences on the 2nd prox. and I hope to have to water in the Lake ready for the fishermen by the 9th of the Month.

#### **Sale of Fish**

During the past season 2,600 yearling trout have been sold to various Societies and private individuals in the neighbourhood and in different parts of the Country. It may interest your Committee to know I have had orders for nearly double the quantity that I have been able to supply.

### **Grange Gardens**

#### **Formation of Bowling Green**

The site of this Bowling Green has been excavated all over and the ashes and sand laid down and thoroughly rolled. Owing to the abnormally wet season the filling in immediately over the ditch is exceeding soft and it is to be feared that this part will for some time give a little trouble so it will not remain a true level. However in the course of a short time as the water leaves the Clay it will no doubt consolidate and when it does subside the shrinkage can be remedied without any great trouble next winter.

Sea washed turf for the Bowling Green has been obtained from the Marquis of Bute's property known as the 'Salt Marsh' which is situated just beyond the Penarth Toll Gate. Laying will be proceeded with during the next few days.

### **Splott Park**

#### **Planting Railway Embankment**

The Great Western Railway Embankment overlooking the Splott Park has been planted up with forest trees during the past month. It took over 900 trees consisting principally of Birch, Mountain Ash, and Oak (all transplanted from the Crystal Woods) to plant this bank.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Presentation**

Four Wild Mature geese were presented by Mr A Sutherland of [illegible, possibly: Montrose] Llanishen through Mr Phelps to your collection at Victoria Park.

#### **General**

##### **Football Season**

Owing to the excessively heavy rainfall this season the recreation grounds have been more damaged by play than for a great number of years past. So constant has been the rain that in most of the Parks, the ground has hardly been fit to play upon for the greater part of the time. Under these circumstances it may be advisable to stop football and a little earlier this year than on former occasions. I shall be glad of your instructions hereon.

##### **Sick Pay**

I beg to report that two of your employees have been in receipt of Sick pay for the past 6 months. Another man – D Callaghan – has been unable to work for over 5 weeks. As he is not now a member of a club – the one to which he belonged failing some years ago – he has not received any sick pay. In the past he has always been allowed 6/- per week during the time he has been off work and I shall be glad of your instruction to do so on the present occasion.

##### **Reminder**

I beg to remind you that the tenant of the Roath Park Refreshment Room gives up his tenancy in May and it will therefore be well to decide as soon as possible what steps you propose to take to fill the tenancy. I should recommend that the Tea Gardens in the Pleasure Gardens be let with the Refreshment Rooms at the Lake.

As Easter Monday falls on the 28th of March this year – two days before the next Parks Committee, you will require to decide today whether a Band is to play at the Roath Park on that day or not and give instructions accordingly.

It may be opportune to remind your Committee that you are the temporary custodian of a Statue which belongs to the College Authorities viz: that of Lord Aberdare, in the Howard Gardens. When this was placed in these Gardens it was an understood thing that as soon as the College removed to its permanent home the Statue would be placed somewhere in the College grounds. The work of removing this when put in hand should be carried out during the winter or spring so that any damage done to the gardens might be easily rectified before the summer.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

25/4/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks etc Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bowling Greens**

According to your instructions the Bowling Greens will be opened to the public on the 30th inst. provided the weather is suitable. To minimise the danger of friction between your officials and players this season, there are one or two matters upon which I shall be glad of your definite instructions. Last year, the New Greens at Roath and Splott Parks were almost entirely reserved for Tournaments and Matches, and many Bowlers who were not connected with Clubs or who took no part in matches had few if any opportunities of using the best greens. Naturally this gave rise to a good deal of grumbling. If the New Greens were used time about with the old ones so that all players could get equal opportunities of using them much unpleasantness would be obviated.

There is however another side to this which it may be as well to bear in mind. The New Greens are in every way superior to the old ones and have cost considerably more to lay out and any damage done to them in the way of abnormal wear and tear will cost correspondingly more to put right again. Inexperienced players who throw the Bowls instead of roll them, or scuffle their boots over the turf while following up a bowl, would soon do a good deal of damage to a well kept green. Such players ought not to be allowed on the best greens but should be confined to an old one. I shall be glad to receive your instructions on these two matters.

I propose this year to issue permits to clubs desiring to have rinks reserved for matches. Under the old method it was quite possible for the members of a Club to be on the ground ready to play before they actually knew whether or not they were going to be allowed to play.

A proof of this permit will be submitted to you today for your approval.

[Note in margin: "approved"]

#### **Bathing at Lake**

The bathing season opens at the Lake on the 1st Inst. As it can not possibly pay you to allow all day bathing for some weeks to come, I shall be glad if you will allow me again this season as you did last to use my own discretion as to the best time to commence and close all day bathing.

[Note in margin: "Yes"]

#### **Sick Pay**

I have to report that Dennis Callaghan – to whom you granted at your last meeting 11/- per week sick pay – is still unable to resume his duties. He and his wife are now in receipt of the old age pension and he has asked to be allowed to do light jobs at the park when he is able to work again. As I have previously reported he has been a hard working decent old man and has served you well for close on twenty years. I may point out that you already allow an old Caretaker who was in your service for much shorter period a sum of 7/6 per week.

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

22/6/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing at Lake**

During the recent warm weather the bathing boxes at the Roath Park lake have been well patronised by the Public. Up to date over 5,000 have passed the turnstile.

Unfortunately the weeds have again become troublesome, and it has been found necessary to put two men on at the cutting and removing of these from the Lake.

Thirty two additional boxes are now being erected at the bathing stage by the City Engineer's staff, and it is hoped that these will be ready for use by the date of the Aquatic Gala on the 13th prox:

*[Items crossed out with comment "v. over page" Text inserted later in correct place]*

### **Roath Park (cont'd)**

#### **Bands**

There have been so many counter attractions in Cardiff this season that the Band performances in the Public Parks have on the whole hardly been so well patronized as in former years. Up to the present only 7,000 persons have occupied chairs at the Band performances this year.

#### **Grange Gardens**

##### **Bowling Green**

The Green in these gardens has, I am pleased to report, knit so well together that it is in quite as good condition as many much older Greens.

On the 18th inst. the Local Club played its first match, at the conclusion of which there were hardly any signs that it had been used. Under these circumstances I do not think that there can be any objections to the green being now occasionally used so long as care is taken of it during the season.

#### **Tarring Paths**

I regret to say that I underestimated the quantity of tar required to spray the paths in these gardens and only about half of them have been completed.

So far only the centre path around the Band Stand and three paths radiating from it have been sprayed. I thoroughly believe by the use of a proper tar-sprayer the 500 gallons of tar would have been nearly sufficient to do the paths in these gardens. Our present method of applying the tar is a most wasteful one but it is the only means at our disposal. Before going further into the question I should be glad if your Committee could see its way to purchase a portable tar sprayer, which would cost you about £30. Such a machine would pay for itself over & over again even in the saving of tar.

#### **Victoria Park**

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

**Presentation of Ravens etc**

Mr E Reece of Newport Road has presented a raven and a Magpie to your collection at Victoria Park.

**General**

**Making of Collections in Parks**

By the instructions of the Chairman I have made enquiries regarding the rules and regulations in the Public Parks throughout the country for the taking up of collections at public meetings. This information I submit in the following tabulated form-

<b>Name of City or Town</b>	
London C. C. Parks	No collections are allowed unless by written permission of Council. No literature is allowed to be sold without like permission
London Royal Parks	Neither collections nor sale of literature allowed.
Glasgow	Collections are not allowed without special permission.
Edinburgh	No Collections allowed in Parks except by special permission. On Commons people may make Collections.
Leeds	No Collections made or Literature sold without written permission.
Birmingham	Public Meetings are not allowed, hence no collections are allowed.
Manchester	No Collections allowed at all.
Hull	Collections when allowed have to be made by the placing of sheets at the entrance to the Recreation Ground. Solicitation is not permitted.
Bournemouth	No Public Meetings allowed in the Parks.
Leicester	Public Meeting are not allowed.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

25/7/10

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Aquatic Gala etc**

I am pleased to report that the Aquatic Gala held under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. at Roath Park on the 13th inst proved a great success. The weather was ideal for such a carnival, and more people were present at the Park than I have ever seen there at one time before. The behaviour of the visitors was exemplary, and little or no damage was done to the Grounds, or the Park Property. Some irresponsible youths however, in the evening got together in a gang and broke a large number of the ornamental glass lamps used by the contractor for illuminating the grounds. It will be as well at any future time when the grounds may be open after dark to put on a special constable to detect and arrest persons doing wilful damage of this character.

If your Committee intend – as I have no doubt they do – continuing to make use of the Lake and adjoining grounds for Aquatic Sports and Carnivals, it will be necessary for the greater comfort of visitors and the better protection of the Grounds to make several alterations to paths and roadways. Our latest experience in this direction has proved exceedingly useful, and at your next meeting I hope to have several suggested improvements and alterations to bring to your notice.

#### **Bathing Boxes**

I am pleased to report that the new set of Bathing Boxes were completed on the 12th inst. and were quite ready for use on the day of the Aquatic Sports and Carnival. The erection of these boxes now completes the scheme first laid before your Committee about four years ago, and there is no room for further extensions

#### **Miscellaneous**

##### **Presentations**

During the past month the following presentations have been made for the collection at Victoria Park:- Two Foxes by – Phelps. Esq. of Llanishen; & one Jackal cub by N Jenkins Esq. Shirley Road. F Martin Esq. of Sherwood, Newport Road presented two large palms to the Roath Park.

#### **Waterloo Gardens**

These Gardens have now been put into a fit condition for opening to the public on Wednesday next. They are however by no means completed as some of the fencing on the boundary line has still to be erected, and a shelter has yet to be constructed for the use of workmen.

#### **Grange Gardens**

In accordance with your instructions I beg to report as to the possibility of finding a piece of sward at these Gardens that could be set aside for the use of children.

After having carefully considered this matter I cannot see my way to recommend your Committee to use any of the Lawns in the Grange Gardens for this purpose. In the first place the area would be

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

so restricted, and the number of children desirous of using it so numerous that within a week every blade of grass would be worn away, and the ground would be as bare and as dusty as the road. In the second place the grass space is already fully occupied, and if a children's playground were to be instituted in these Gardens, some of the Lawn now used for Tennis would have to be utilized, and the playing of this game necessarily restricted.

I thoroughly agree that wherever possible a children's grass playground should form part of a park, but to be of any practical value such a playground must be sufficiently extensive to enable play being distributed over it, so that the grass is never worn entirely away. The children's Playground at Victoria Park, which is quite a model of its kind, owes its success to the fact that it is sufficiently extensive for the purpose.

I have the honour to be,  
Gentlemen.  
Your obedient Servant.  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept:

Roath Park  
Cardiff

20/9/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Music in Parks**

The Band season closed on the 31st Ult. I regret to say that owing to the cold and dull season the musical performances this year were not a great success, and were not patronized nearly so well as on former years. The receipts from the letting of Chairs and the sale of programmes amounted to £76-5-0, as compared with £85-4-7 last year.

#### **Galas etc**

Two Galas have taken place in the Park since your last meeting. The first was held by the Police on the 3rd ult, when the weather was so unpropitious that the meeting was little short of a failure. The second Gala was held under the auspices of the Roath Park Swimming Club on the 24th ult, and was I am pleased to say in every way a thorough success.

#### **Burglaries etc at Parks**

I regret having to report that the Refreshment House was broken into on the nights of August the 5th & 9th. One of the plate glass windows on the front veranda was broken on each occasion, and by this means the culprits gained access to the building. Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes in considerable quantity were taken, but fortunately there was not any money in the tills. There was clear evidence that the two burglaries were the work of the same gang.

On the 14th of August the Office at the Bathing Stage was broken into and a number of bathing costumes and towels stolen. Again on the 4th inst the Slot Meter at the Tea Tables was broken open and the money extracted. Fortunately the money had been cleared from the till the day before, so that beyond the damage to the meter this theft caused little loss. I am sorry to state that no trace of any of the culprits in the foregoing burglaries has been discovered.

### **General**

#### **Football Season**

The football season opened on the 17th inst. More applications have again been received this season for pitches than it is possible to supply. At the present moment we could easily do with double the area of ground available for this winter sport.

At Splott Park another pitch can be set out on the new ground and thus relieve some of the pressure at this end of the Town. I shall be glad of your instructions to open up this ground for this purpose.  
[“Yes” written in the margin]

#### **Damage to Tar Sprayer**

I regret to report that on the second day that the Tar Sprayer was being used in the Waterloo Gardens it caught fire and received considerable damage. The fire from the sprayer spread to the tar barrels close by and destroyed about 80 gallons of Tar. The fire reel from Roath Police Station was

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

quickly brought on the scene and the flames put out. Had not the police acted with promptitude I am afraid that the fire might have spread to St Margaret's Orphanage close by. As it was the smoke from the burning tar blackened the windows, woodwork and statuary in the front of this building.

The man in charge of the machine states that the fire originated as a result of the tar escaping into the fire from the force pump when the safety tap was opened. This statement is being thoroughly investigated, & the makers of the Sprayer have been communicated with.

### **Shelter Queen Alexandra Gardens**

I beg to call the attention of your Committee to need of a shelter in the Queen Alexandra Gardens. At the present time the caretaker has only a watchman's box in which to take his food or shelter from rain, and he has no fire at which to warm his food. In the scheme submitted to the Property and Markets Committee for laying out this ground a suitable shelter was provided for. This being so the City Engineer might now be asked to prepare plans of a suitable shelter and the Property and Markets Committee to have the work carried out as soon as possible.

### **Park Keeper on Sick list**

I have to report that Park Keeper Thorburn has been ordered away by his Medical Attendant to the Porthcawl Rest for a few weeks as he is threatened with hemorrhage of the lungs. He has been in the employ of your Committee for about four years, and has proved himself a most efficient and obliging officer.

For obvious reasons he has not been able to get enrolled as a member of a Friendly Society so is not now in receipt of sick pay.

### **Presentation**

I have to report that Mr Councillor Wall presented a South American Hawk to the collection at Victoria Park on the 8th ult.

I have the honour to be,  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant.  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt: Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

24/10/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks, Open Spaces etc Committee

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

**Roath Park**

**Bathing**

The Bathing Season was brought to a close on the 30th ult. The number of persons who made use of Bathing facilities this year was 19,134 as compared with 21,000 last year. Of the former number 14,049 bathed from the enclosed stage, while the remaining 5,085 took advantage of free bathing. The average number of bathers per day was 125. It is very satisfactory to be able to report once again, that no serious accident occurred at the Lake during the past season.

During the greater part of the summer the weather was exceptionally unfavourable for open air bathing, and the receipts as a consequence were not so good as they ought to have been. The sum of £75-7-3 has been paid over to the City Treasurer for bathing fees, and £22-8-4 for the hire of towels and costumes. In addition to these sums £118 has been received as a result of two out of the three Galas held at the Lake during the past season.

**Bowling and Tennis**

On the 1st instant the Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts were closed for the year. The continued popularity of these games can readily be seen by the statement of receipts from the various Parks and Open Spaces:-

	Bowling	Tennis	Goloshes
Roath Park	55-9-10	57-0-0	13-12-10
Victoria Park	27-15-0	33-19-0	6-14-7
Sploott Park	25-14-0	26-10-6	6-17-6
Grange Gdns	18-18-8	18-10-0	3-1-6
Howard Gdns		15-14-2	
£	127-17-6	151-13-8	30-6-5

The total sum derived from these sources last year amounted to a little over £312 whereas during the current year the income was only slightly over £309, a difference easily accounted for by the wet season of 1910.

**Chrysanthemum Display**

The Chrysanthemum House will be open to the public on Sunday Nov 6th and the blooms will thereafter be on show each day until the early part of December.

**Proposed Alterations**

A good many alterations are needed in the Pleasure Gardens and the Botanic Gardens which ought

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

to be undertaken as early as possible during the coming winter.

In the first place the old Bowling Green required to be returfed as it has subsided very badly in places, and has not nearly as true a surface as it ought to have. If it is decided to lay down "Sea washed" turf on the New Green it would be advisable to utilize the turf taken off it for the Old Green, while the turf from the latter could be used for patching up the Tennis Courts which have been badly worn this year.

As a good deal of dissatisfaction has been felt by numerous visitors that they have not been able to view the matches played on the Greens from time to time. I propose to form a 6'0" path around three sides of the New Green, and one side of the Old Green. I also propose to widen the present walk on the South side of the Old Green as it is invariably greatly congested during the fine weather while games are in progress.

In the Botanic Gardens there are several portions of the Brook banks which will look much the better for having the scrub cut down and the slopes filled up with fresh earth, and replanted with more suitable material. If there is time for this work I hope to have it put in hand before the New Year.

### **Commemoration Trees**

In many Cities in this country it is customary to plant specimen trees in one or other of the Public Parks to commemorate the accession of a new monarch to the throne. Up to the present this has never been done in Cardiff and I think it would be rather nice to do so on the present occasion. The period of the year has now arrived when planting can be taken in hand, and in order to make the necessary preparations I shall be glad to know whether or not you would care to plant Commemoration trees in any of your parks.

### **Presentations**

I have to report that Mr. G. Ross of 74 Colum Road presented your Committee with a fine Mongoose, and Mrs Delguerra of Church Street made a gift of an Umbrella Crested Cockatoo, both of which have been sent to Victoria Park.

I have the honour to be,  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant.  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt. Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

29/11/10

To the Chairman and Members of the Parks, Open Spaces etc Committee,

Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Annual Chrysanthemum Display**

The Chrysanthemum House was opened to the public on the 5th inst. Since that date the weather has been very unpropitious, but notwithstanding that fact over 7,800 persons have inspected the Chrysanthemums.

#### **Bowling Greens**

The relaying of the two Greens at Roath Park is now in progress, and will be carried out as expeditiously as possible. The drainage of the Old Green is being improved, and the level raised by another 6 inches. This should make it a much better green than it has ever been before. The turf taken off the New Green is going to be utilized on the Old Green, and the sea-washed turf for the former is being supplied by Mr Williams of Splott Farm from the sea front on Splott Moors.

#### **Wood Cutting Plant**

As instructed, I have made a number of enquiries regarding the cost of a suitable wood cutting plant, and find that the necessary electric motor to drive a 24 inch saw would cost £34-3-6 and the labour of fixing same including wire etc an extra £24-16-6.

The shafting for driving the saw would cost £8, while the saw and bench might be had for another £13, making a total sum of £80 to fit up the whole thing complete.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Reforming Bowling Green**

The Bowling Green at this Park is now being entirely reformed, and the ground immediately surrounding it, raised for a height of 9 inches. A foundation of 3 inch. of ashes is being laid over the whole site, and to make room for this a large quantity of soil has to be removed. The surface of the green will remain exactly at the same level as it was before.

I originally intended getting turf from the Llandough Moors for this ground, but find that it will be much better to get it from Splott as in the case of the Roath Park Green.

### **Howard Gardens**

#### **Proposed Bowling Green**

In accordance with the promise made by your Chairman at the last Council Meeting I beg to make the following report regarding the possibility of constructing a Bowling Green in the Howard Gardens:-

As may be gathered from the plan of Howard Gardens, submitted herewith (and as I have previously reported) a full size Bowling Green can be set out in these Gardens if your Committee is prepared to sacrifice the symmetry of the grounds, and do away with the shrubberies where they

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

would run parallel to the sides of the Green.

If your committee cannot agree to this, and decide to allow the paths, and shrubberies to remain as at present, there will only be room for a 5 rink green which must necessarily be played on in one direction only, instead of two.

At the present time the lawn at Howard Gardens is set out as two tennis courts which are fairly well patronized during the season. As there is not room for both a Bowling Green and 2 Tennis Courts in this garden the latter will have to be done away with, if it is decided to proceed with the formation of a Bowling Green.

To lay down a Bowling Green on this piece of ground with suitable sea-washed turf, and proper foundations will cost close upon £325.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your obedient servant.  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt. Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

27th March 1911

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks, Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:

### **Roath Park**

#### **Park Keepers**

In accordance with your instructions I beg to submit for your information the following report regarding the wages paid to and the hours worked by the Park Keepers employed on your staff.

At the present time there are in all nine Park Keepers on your Staff including a Sergeant Park Keeper, a swimming expert and seven special constables. The Sergeant (who by the way is not one of the applicants for an increase of wages) receives 33/- per week, the swimming expert 30/- per week, one of the Keepers who has charge of the Pay box at the Bathing stage during the Bathing Season receives at that period 28/- per week, and another who has charge of the Fish Hatching is in receipt of 27/- per week.

The remaining five men are paid 26/- per week, while all are supplied with uniforms and one pair of boots annually.

During the bathing season these Park Keepers are on duty for three hours each Sunday morning for which they are paid at the rate of 6d per hour. The hours during which the Park Keepers are on duty vary considerably during the different periods of the year. In winter they are short while in Summer they are fairly long, but they are equalized as much as possible throughout the year.

From September 21st. till March 14th the Park Keepers are on duty from 9 a.m. till one hour after sunset; from March 15th. till May 27th and from July 23rd till September 20th they commence work at 10.a m and finish at 1hour after sunset, while from May 28th till July 22nd their hours are from 10.30 a.m. till 1 hour after sunset.

On Christmas Day, Good Friday and on every Sunday throughout the year the hours of duty are from 10am till 1 hour after sunset.

From Feb 10th. till Oct 15th. 1½ hours are allowed for meals each day and one hour during the remainder of the year.

During May June July and August Park Keepers are allowed every other Sunday off duty but during the remainder of the year they are only free one Sunday out of three. In addition to the off Sundays they are allowed one half day off every five weeks.

If the Park Keepers were to work the whole of the hours specified they would be on duty for about 2744 hours per annum or an average of 52¾ hours per week.

As however they have time off for all Bank Holidays and are allowed 7 working days annual leave, the average number of hours worked is 50¾ hours per week for the year.

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

By granting their application for every other Sunday off duty you will be reducing the number of hours they work to about 46 hours per week and you will be increasing the cost of Sunday Duty by something over £40 per annum.

The request for time and a half for Bathing Duty is a very reasonable one seeing that all workmen who patrol the Parks on Sunday are paid at this rate.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

Roath Park  
Cardiff

24/4/1911

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces etc Committee.

Gentlemen.

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Work carried out by unemployed during winter 1910 · 1911.**

During the past winter a number of very useful & necessary improvements have been carried out in the Roath Park by the aid of workmen supplied to your Committee through the Cardiff Distress Committee. Most of the work commenced by these men was completed on the 31st ult although some of it has had to be finished up by your regular staff, during the present month.

Three large sized fish ponds suitable for rearing 2 year old trout in were set out & completed during the past winter.

These will be no less ornamental than useful & I hope that they will form a very pleasing feature in the Wild Garden.

Another very necessary improvement carried out during the same period was the widening of the footpaths leading from the west side of the Lake Embankment down to the bandstand. This path was originally about 9ft wide but it has now been widened for a further 6 feet giving it a total width of 15 feet, this will prevent such a crush taking place here on Band nights as was formerly the case.

In addition to the foregoing improvements carried out by the unemployed the following work was also taken in hand. Draining the Recreation Ground: cleaning out the Brook from the Recreation to the top end of the Pleasure Gardens: Building up walls & reclaiming the banks, adjoining the Brook in the Wild Gardens, forming paths around the Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts & forming new borders in the Botanic Gardens. In the other parks & Open Spaces a good deal of similar work was undertaken by the unemployed. After the consideration of these few facts it must be admitted that your Committee have no reason to regret that the Council have thrust upon it the duty of finding work for the unemployed during the winter.

#### **Bowling Greens**

Owing to the cold dry winds experienced during the greater part of the last 2 months, I fear the Bowling Greens & Tennis Courts will not be in the best of condition to open at the beginning of next month.

Most players are asking to be allowed to begin on the 29th inst instead of waiting until the 1st of May.

I shall be glad if you will decide this point today so that I may be in a position to write the various Clubs Secretaries.

#### **Bathing**

The bathing season commences on the 1st [illegible but probably June] & although we are

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

empowered to keep the Bathing boxes open all day, I shall be glad if you will allow me to use my discretion as to when all day bathing shall begin at the commencement of the season the weather is usually so cold that it is a waste of money keeping two men on duty when probably only three or four bathers will avail themselves of the privilege of using the boxes.

[In left hand margin partly illegible but containing "Pettigrew be permitted"]

As it is known that I shall be requiring the services of an extra boat man during the bathing season, I have been approached by one of your old tenant boatmen asking for the appointment. I should under ordinary circumstances have given him the post, but as he is rather older than the men I usually appoint for the purpose I wish to have your instructions on the matter.

### **Laying out Penylan Gardens**

As you are probably aware the laying out of the Penylan Gardens was commenced about the beginning of March by men supplied by the Distress Committee. Since the first of the present month this work has been carried on by men selected from the best of those who worked for you on Distress work during the past winter.

I am pleased to report that very good progress with this work has been made on the north side of the first section enclosed; the whole of the paths have been excavated & are now almost ready for ballast & gravel. I hope to make a good show with the laying out during the next month.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Presentation to the collection of Animals**

A Pair of Badger was presented to your committee by Mr Harry of Canton & placed in a pen at the beginning of last month.

Mr C Thompson, at the same time presented your Committee with a Cygnet.

In connection with your collection of Animals at this park, I am pleased to say that Messrs Neal & West continue to supply the department free of cost with fish for feeding purposes.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces etc Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

**Roath Park**

**Fishing Tickets for Lake**

In accordance with your instructions I beg to submit for your information the following figures regarding the sale of Fishing Tickets during the past five years:-

The number of tickets sold during

1907	amounted	to	162.
1908	“	“	144.
1909	“	“	117.
1910	“	“	67.
1911	“	“	79.

From this statement it will be seen that during the years 1907 till 1910 a gradual falling off in the sale of the fishing tickets has taken place.

This year however sees a slight rise again, & I hope this will continue until the old average is reached.

**Bathing in the Lake**

On the 29th ult [June] mixed bathing was permitted in the Lake for the first time. I am pleased to say that up to the present time this Innovation has worked very satisfactorily and has given considerable satisfaction to the Public in general & the bathers in particular.

Like all new development it seems likely to bring a number of fresh requirements in its train.

In the first place as the ladies section of the Bathing Stage is immediately opposite the shallow water a number of young women are asking to be allowed to Bathe in the Lake although they cannot swim. They further ask that they may be permitted to bring someone with them to teach them to swim.

It is noticeable that since mixed bathing has commenced in the Lake a number of less efficient swimmers are patronizing the shallow end of the bathing ground where there is little likelihood of their getting into difficulties.

During the present season over 13,200 bathers have made use of the dressing boxes at the Lake. So numerous have they been on several occasions lately that I have had serious doubts as to the ability of the swimming expert to look after them & I felt that if the popularity of the Bathing increased in any degree it would almost become necessary in the case of accidents to appoint a second Boatman during busy days.

I am sorry to say that recently a number of bathers have in defiance to our regulations swum out

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

beyond the boundaries and some have gone a considerable way up the Lake. While there may not be much danger in some swimmers doing this, if it is not checked others less competent will be attempting to follow their example, & the result will be that one day before long someone will be drowned when a cry out will no doubt be made that we have not been doing our duty. I should very much like to get your instructions to debar anyone from bathing in the lake who has once gone outside the proper boundaries. This seems to me the only way to put down a growing evil.

Another point I would like to have your instructions on is, that a number of small Boys use the shallow part for fishing & bring with them bottles which get broken and are a danger so to the bathers using this part.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report on General Park matters.

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing at Lake**

Owing to the exceptionally warm summer bathing has been more than usually popular at the Lake this season.

Up until the 18th inst over 44000 bathers have passed through the turnstiles at the bathing stage, for the whole of last season the number only amounted to 19134 so that the total for the present year is more than double the number of last year.

Ladies have taken greater advantage of the bathing facilities offered them than was at first anticipated, a good number always being present during some portion of each day during the times the bathing stage has been open to the public.

#### **Need of Urinal & W.C. accommodation at Bathing Stage**

The exceptional popularity of bathing at Roath Park this year has brought into prominence several improvements which are badly needed at the Bathing Stage, before it can be deemed as satisfactory as it might be to those making use of it; the most important of these is Urinal & W.C. accommodation which appear to be very badly needed. The cleaners inform me that there are indications nearly every day of some of the bathers having used the boxes as urinals and on several occasions excrement has been found covered over with towels in corners of the boxes. These facts point to the great necessity of providing suitable accommodation.

Of course the great drawback to the provision of proper lavatories is that the bathing Stage being so low there would be considerable difficulty in draining it into the sewer. The City Engineer however may if asked, be able to suggest some method of overcoming this difficulty.

#### **Bathing Dresses Stolen**

I am sorry to report that during the season, a large number of Bathing Dresses have been stolen by bathers. Several lads have been caught wearing these stolen articles when of course they have promptly been made to give them up. As however we were unable to prove when or how they were stolen the Town Clerk did not see his way clear to take legal proceedings.

The only way to prevent these thefts is to have costumes with "Parks Dept" woven into the material with which they are made up, so that it would be impossible to obliterate the marking without destroying the costume itself. This is the method adopted with the towelling & so far we are unaware of any towels having been stolen.

It may also be a wise precaution to have a rule making it compulsory for every bather to show his costume as he leaves the stage.

If you decide to have costumes with a distinctive mark, this should be put in hand at once, as we

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

have found in the past great difficulty in having orders for special articles executed in time, if the ordering is left till close on the season, when they are required. It may be some guide to your Committee to know that for hiring out Costumes and Towels this season you have derived an income £79·10·0. The profit on this however is only [blank space] as the remainder of that sum is taken up in paying for washing.

#### **Bathing after September 30th.**

A number of bathers have approached me with reference to the possibility of continuing Bathing in the Lake after the end of this month and I have informed them that your Committee will in all probability be prepared to keep the Lake open for the purpose for a short time longer provided the weather remains warm & a sufficient number of bathers intend to make it worth while to keep officials in attendance.

#### **Repairs to the Boating Stage**

As the Finance Committee are at present considering the supplemental Estimate it will be necessary for your Committee to come to a decision on the question of reforming the Boating Stage to-day so that so that the work may be put in hand during the coming winter in readiness for next season.

I may say that unless something is done to put the Boating Stage in a better sate of repair at once some visitor or other will be meeting with a serious accident when the probability is that your Committee will have to pay a considerable sum in damages.

#### **More Gas Stoves needed at Lake Side**

The Gas Stove installation at the Roath Park has proved such a popular institution that during the past summer it has been found impossible for the one Stove to meet with all the demands made upon it. Many visitors were from time to time compelled to leave the Park & go else where for hot water much to the disappointment of the children accompanying them. Three more Stoves would be a great boon to the large class of visitors who now try to use the present cooking facilities provided at the lake.

#### **Band performances at Roath Park**

On account of the provision of the Electric Light in the Botanical Gardens at the Roath Park, the Band Performances have been continued for quite six weeks longer this year than on any previous occasion. The evening performances maintain their popularity and appear to be a source of a great deal of enjoyment to the public who attend in large numbers.

The lighting arrangements appear to be thoroughly satisfactory and have enabled your Committee to keep the lit up portion of the ground open for two hours beyond the usual closing time.

#### **Receipts from Galas at Park**

So far the Y. M. C. A. is the only one of the three organisations that have held Galas in the Roath Park this season which has paid in any of their receipt to your account, a sum of £62 has been handed over to the City Treasurer as representing the share of the Parks Dept in the taking of the Y. M. C. A. at the Gala held on the 19th of July last. I have asked the City Treasurer to place this, as formerly, to the credit of the Parks "Suspense Account".

#### **Motor Saw etc**

The sawing apparatus has now been fitted up at the Roath Park Depot, and logs can be cut up for sale at any time.

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

In the past we have been in the habit of supplying logs 12 inches long at 14/- per ton. As this appears to be under the charges made by dealers, I shall be glad of your instructions on the matter.

#### **Appointment of one of Parks Gardening Staff**

I am pleased to report that one of the assistants on your Staff at Roath Park has been successful in obtaining an appointment as Head Gardener to the Grand Duke Georges at Haraks Yalta in Russia which appointment he takes up on the 1st prox.

#### **Loan of Orchid**

During the month of August Councillor Manders very kindly allowed one of his Orchids to be on view to the public at the Park.

The Orchid in question is a very rare one and naturally a good deal of interest was taken in it by a large number of Plant lovers who visit the Park from time to time.

#### **Distribution of Plants**

I am sorry to report that owing to the exceedingly dry season experienced this year it has been found impossible to obtain as many cuttings from our bedding plants as we require hence it will be necessary to save the plants instead of distributing them to the public as has been formerly done.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
Supt Parks Dept. W. W. Pettigrew

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee.

Gentlemen.

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing in the Lake**

The Bathing Season came to a close on the 30th ult and I am pleased to be in a position once again to report that no fatal accidents occurred during the year.

About 44,000 bathers used the Bathing Boxes during the season, and the free bathers numbered 15,000.

The sum of £252·16·8 was handed over to the City Treasurer as income from bathing and £79·10·9 for the hire of Costumes etc

#### **Bowling & Tennis**

The Bowling & Tennis season terminated on the 30th ult and on the whole the past year has been a very successful one. At Roath Park the receipts amounted to £112-7-9 at Victoria Park 75·19·6 Grange Gardens 38·2·11 & Splott Park 40·13·7, Howard Gdns £19·12·1

#### **Fire at Roath Park Pleasure Gdns**

On the 11th inst some rubbish laying on one of the islands in the Roath Park Pleasure Gdns caught fire & broke out in to flames about 11 pm fortunately a gentleman being in the vicinity of the park and a number of the members of the Roath Park Swimming Club noticed the flames and called at my house & drew my attention to it, they also very kindly gave every assistance in putting out the fire which was thus fortunately soon extinguished.

#### **Old Bowling Splott Park**

During the present season the old Bowling Green at Splott Park has hardly been used as it has not been regarded by Bowlers as fit to play upon. As it will be no better next season if allowed to stand as it is at present I shall be glad of your instructions as to what is best to be done with it under the circumstances, it may either be turfied and again used as a Bowling Green or turned into three Tennis Courts as it stands at present

#### **Caretaker at Howard Gdns**

The caretaker at Howard Gdns has asked me to bring to your notice the extra responsibility the playing of Tennis in these Gdns has thrown upon him, & he wishes to know if a little extra remuneration might be given him during the Tennis Season.

#### **Llandaff Fields**

I am sorry to report that the penny-in-the-slot meters in the conveniences at the Llandaff Fields were broken open on the 9th inst & the contents stolen.

The County Police were notified of the theft but up to the present no clue has been discovered likely to lead to the arrest of the culprits.

**Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

On the evening of the 12th inst a Motor Car ran into the fence at the Cathedral Road end of the Llandaff Fields and destroyed several lengths of the cross railing.

I shall be glad of your instruction as to whether or not the expense of repairing this damage is to be charged to the owner of the Motor Car. As a guide in arriving at a decision on this point I have obtained a copy of the Police report which will be laid before you.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Supt Parks Dept.

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report.

### **Roath Park**

#### **Unemployed Workmen**

Since the 8th of Jany three gangs of workmen supplied by the Cardiff Distress Committee have been engaged upon various works in the Roath Park.

The reconstruction of the Boating Stage, the deepening of the Lake at the north end of the Bathing Stage & the Pitching of the sides of the Brook at the Penylan Rd end of the Recreation Ground are the works at present being carried out by the unemployed. The Local Government Board have given the usual grants for assisting your Council in utilizing this class of labour on these three works. Taking into consideration the inclemency of the weather since the inception of the work good Progress has been made

#### **Dangerous condition of Brook Banks in Recreation Ground**

In accordance with Resolution 1189 passed by this Committee on the 11th Jany I have gone into the question of fencing off the Brook from Children and find that to do so with patent woven wire fencing 3'6" high would involve an expenditure of £33 Whereas to fence the same ground with even the simplest kind of Iron Railings would cost over £110.

#### **Distribution of Permits for Football Pitches**

A good deal of dissatisfaction seems to be felt by local clubs as to the manner in which our Football Permits are distributed & I have been spoken to on this matter by several members of the Council & I should therefore like to have your instructions on one or two points which have recently cropped up.

Of course when it is remembered that for every football pitch you have in your Parks there are at least about five clubs desirous of making use of it you will readily understand that it will never be possible to satisfy the demands of the players. On the other hand it is my desire to so act in the distribution of these permits as to give satisfaction to the greatest number of clubs.

I may say that the actual distribution of these permits is left in the hands of the Sergeant Park Keeper as of course it would be quite out of the question for me to give personal attention to details of this character & I am only consulted when difficulties arise.

The system adopted in carrying out this distribution is to get in the Match Fixture Lists as early as possible in September & then allocate them for the season, but issuing the permits month by month. As far as possible each club has about the same number of permits allocated to it for the season, but as it often happens that matches are abandoned before the season is out the distribution does not workout as equally as at first arranged.

Some clubs do not send in their applications for a permit until about a week before the match for which it is required takes place & by which time naturally nearly every pitch has been allocated,

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

only this week a notice was sent to us on Tuesday asking for a permit for Saturday next as a most important League Match had to be played off between two local clubs. If the permits are not available then our Department is charged with unfairness by the disappointed team, but if on the other hand it is forthcoming then some other players charge us with showing favouritism so that it seems whatever we do at present causes dissatisfaction.

I shall be glad of your instructions on the following points.

- (1) It is the desire of your Committee to give preference to give preference to League Matches which have to be played off in the Park?
- (2) Should any special consideration be shown to clubs which have been in existence for a number of years over those which have just come into existence.
- (3) Should clubs composed of adults take any precedence over those run by boys.
- (4) Should the Parks Department acquiesce in a case where one Club is willing to abandon a match so as to give its permit to another Club which has a more important match to play.

### **Canton Common**

#### **Laying out plots by Kitchener Rd Schools**

Plans will be submitted for your inspection to day showing a much cheaper method of laying out the two plots of Ground to the North of the Kitchener Road Schools than that proposed on a former occasion

The estimated cost of fencing in and planting the plots marked No 1 is £270 & for No 2 £87

### **Proposed Childrens Garden**

In accordance with your instructions I submit a scheme for utilizing the piece of ground to the South End of the Kitchener Road Schools as a School Children Garden.

### **Victoria Park**

#### **Building Sites**

I am pleased to report that the drainage scheme for carrying away the water from the Building land at the north end of Victoria Park which was submitted for your approval by the City Engineer in December last has now been completed & the site is being filled up with soil.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Chief Officer  
Parks Dept.

[another indecipherable signature to left of Pettigrew's signature]

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Reforming Boating Stage**

The whole of the work in connection with the reforming of the Bathing Stage at Roath Pk has now been completed and the proprietor seems to be exceeding well pleased with the manner in which the work has been carried out.

Owing to the delay in commencing these alteration it was quite impossible to finish the work before the close of the financial year during which the money was available.

Under these circumstances it will be quite as well if the City Treasurer is asked to treat the sum of money raised for meeting the cost of this improvement as a Suspense Account during the months of April & May, if this is not done your present estimates will show a certain amount on over expenditure.

#### **Bathing at Lake**

Now that the weather has become warm all day Bathing is permitted at the Lake and a good many persons are taking advantage of the facilities offered. I am pleased to report that the two temporary Swimming Experts have taken up their duties in a very satisfactory manner & I think they will prove thoroughly reliable men.

Owing to a habit of shouting which has recently been allowed to develop among the bathers a swimmer who took cramp while in the water on Sunday last nearly lost his life as his cries were not noticed on account of the amount of shouting which was going on.

As it is quite against our rules for bathers to shout, I have issued instructions to the attendant to have anyone removed from the water who continues to offend after being warned. If some such step is not taken it is to be feared that a serious accident will sooner or later take place.

#### **Crickets Nets**

As the Finance Committee at their meeting on the 20th inst sanctioned the purchasing of the Practice Crickets Nets for the Parks I have sent to several firms, asking for tenders for the supply of these. As I hope to have quotations in by the middle of next week, I shall be glad if you can see your way to appoint a sub. committee to accept the most suitable tender without bring the matter again before you. As the matter is urgent this seems to be the best manner of dealing with it & I shall be glad of your instructions thereon.

#### **False Bottom on Band Stand**

The alterations to the Bandstand at Roath Park authorised by your Committee were carried out in time for the first Band performance in May. I am pleased to say that it has proved a thorough success as the music is heard much more distinctly than it was under the old conditions. In addition

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

to this the floor being removable will last very much longer than the fixed floors did which were affected very much by the rain constantly falling on them during the winter.

#### **Dangerous Corner by Fair oak Railway Bridge**

The Chairman of the Parks Committee has on several occasions called my attention to the exceeding dangerous corner of the Park Road abutting on the Fair oak Railway Bridge.

By setting back the Park Railings at that point and taking off a slice of the land belonging to the T. V. Railway by the bridge the dangerous character could be greatly reduced.

As this is a matter of negotiation between the Railway Company and the Corporation it would perhaps be quite as well if reports were obtained from the Town Clerk and City Engineer on the whole matter.

#### **Application for Loan of Plants**

I understand an application will be made at your meeting to-day for the loan of some Palms etc to be used for the decorating a local church next Sunday. The only point to be especially considered in this connection is that the date will be rather inconvenient as the day after they are used is a Bank Holiday & the plants would either have to remain in the Church until the Tuesday or men & horses would so be called out specially to bring them back to the Park on Whit Monday. Taking every thing into consideration it will be hardly be advisable to accede to the request.

### **Llandaff Fields**

#### **Seats**

Eight of the sixteen seats which your Committee ordered to be placed in the Llandaff Fields have now been fixed at the Cathedral Road end of these grounds. I hope after a time to get the other eight placed in the fields beyond Court Farm.

#### **Cricket Pitches**

As there has recently been some correspondence in the papers relative to the condition of the Cricket Pitches in Llandaff Fields, I have thought it well to point out to your Committee that the whole of the fault does not lie with the management. Cricketers themselves are a great deal to blame for the holes which are said to exist in these pitches. When visiting the Fields last Saturday morning I noticed that a great number of the lads from a local school were batting on the prepared pitches after they have been mown and rolled for the afternoon matches.

As the Boys were often batting in the very middle of the pitches, the natural result was that by prodding their bats into the turf in anticipation of receiving a ball, holes were made in the very portion of the pitch where the ground should be as level as possible.

As it would take five or six men to prevent this kind of thing it is hardly possible to keep these pitches in the condition which would meet with approval of some players.

#### **Paths**

I am sorry to report that the number & width of the paths in these Fields are increasing.

I should be glad if the Committee could see its way to pay a visit to the ground at an early date, just to see if no means can be devised to put a stop to the waste of ground that is now taking place these through the great number of footpaths which are being formed here.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

### **General Matters**

#### **Kings Visit**

If the Parks Committee intend on the occasion of the Kings Visit to take any part in the floral decoration of the City Hall, and do so in a manner worthy of the occasion it will be absolutely necessary to purchase a number of suitable plants for the purpose.

The few palms which are at your disposal are quite inadequate and it will be necessary to secure a great many flowering plants before any decorations can be taken in hand.

#### **Protection of Gorsedd Gardens**

Unless some special steps are taken to exclude the public from the Gorsedd Gardens during the time the King is laying the Memorial Stone at the National Museum, I fear very considerable damage will be done to the trees & shrubs. As these have never reached a stage when they look at their best it will be a very great pity to allow them to be destroyed on this occasion.

I shall be glad of your instructions as to what steps ought to be taken to protect these gardens.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
for W. W. Pettigrew  
[illegible] Bell

The Office  
Roath Park  
24th June 1912

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing in Lake**

Owing to the very unfavourable weather experienced since the opening of the Bathing Season, this year the number of Persons using the Stage is very much less than it was at this period last year.

Up to date a large number of bathers have passed through the Turnstile. I am pleased to say the Lavatories, both on the Ladies & Gentlemens Stages have been completed and should prove a great convenience to those patronizing the Lake.

#### **Bands**

As in the case of bathing the weather has been responsible for a decrease in the income usually derived from the letting of Chairs at the Band Performances. The evenings have been so cold on days that visitors have been more inclined to walk about than enter the enclosure & pay for sitting accommodation.

#### **Grand Stand on Embankment**

As the Y. M. C. A. Gala will take place on the 10th prox it will be necessary to erect the Grand Stand on the Embankment in sufficient time to be in readiness for that date.

Owing to the fact that it will cost about £10 to take the Stand down & put it up again for the next Gala, I suggest that it be allowed to remain in position until after the 8th of August when it can be removed and stored till required the following season.

#### **Bathing Expert**

Bathing expert has during the hours he is not required for Bathing Duty been in the habit of Painting the Life Buoys and Boats. It has been brought to my notice that this is against the rules of the Society, I shall be glad to receive your instructions on this matter.

#### **Jobbing gardening undertaken by Parks Employees**

In accordance with your instruction, I beg to submit for your information the following statement dealing with the question of outside work undertaken by some of your Park employees.

In so far as I can gather there can only be three grounds upon which your Committee have any reason to object to the employees under your control doing work in their own time. These are (1) When such work by its nature makes them unfitted to carry on the ordinary work satisfactorily, or in any other way interferes with the proper discharge of their duties (2) When it may lead to dishonesty by causing them to use plants or other material belonging to your Committee or (3) That other men who depend upon their livelihood upon Jobbing Gardening are done out of this work on account of your staff taking it up.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

With regard to the first of these, I may say that so far as my experience goes I have only in one instance known of a man who looked after so many places that he was not as fit as he ought to have been to carry out his usual work so that as a valid objection to the general principle it may be dispensed with altogether. The second objection is without doubt a very real one as there may often be very great temptation for persons handling seeds & plants to secret these and afterwards take them away and sell them to persons for whom he does work, of course there would be the same temptation even to men who did not undertake any Jobbing Gardening needless to say pilfering of this description would be most difficult to detect but during the 21 years I have had charge of the Cardiff Parks Dept only two cases have come to my knowledge and one of these had nothing whatever to do with men doing Jobbing Gardening.

Coming to the last of the three objections which is by far the most important one there is after all a good deal to be said for & against it. In the first place I am informed by householders that although there are a great many persons who undertake Jobbing Gardening, there are very few who actually understand it as they merely take up the work temporarily & when anything better turns up they leave it. The bonafide gardener who goes in for Jobbing work in Cardiff soon gets all the work he can manage & the small jobs done by your men do not affect him in the least.

I may say that time & again I have been applied to by ratepayers to recommend one of the Park workmen to do their Garden of an evening, as they fail to get any degree of satisfaction from casual Jobbers who are here today & away tomorrow. As no rules have been in force prohibiting your employees from doing work of this description I have invariably tried to oblige those seeking their help and generally with the most satisfactory results.

I quite agree however that if your men are in the slightest way interfering with the calling of genuine Jobbing Gardening they should be debarred from doing the work even should it not interfere with their ordinary duties nor prove a temptation to them in pilfering plants.

### **Need of Urinal & W.C.**

As so many children & grown up people now congregate round the Tea Tables on the West side of the Lake it has become absolutely essential that some kind of convenience should be erected there. As there is not at present any lavatory accommodation within about half a mile of this spot the children are in the habit of relieving themselves behind the shrubs and the smaller ones do so even underneath the tables. The result is that the smell now arising from the ground in the vicinity of the tea tables makes it the last place one would wish to go to take their food.

A year or more ago it was decided to place a Urinal at this spot but on account of the site being below the sewer the project had to be abandoned for the time being.

This difficulty however can be overcome just as it was in the case of the Lavatories at the Bathing Boxes by raising the structure above the present ground level.

### **Sunday Boating on Lake**

At your last meeting I was instructed to report as to the extra cost that would be incurred by your department if Boating on Sundays were permitted on the Lake.

Assuming that Boating proved as popular as it does on Bank Holidays, I estimate that it would cost an extra 35/- per Sunday to provide the necessary caretakers to look after & protect visitors.

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

This may seem a very small sum to spend as compared with the pleasure it may give to the public. I should however just like to point out that if you permit Sunday Boating you will soon be called upon to your Bowling Greens, Tennis Courts, Cricket Pitches and Football Grounds for Sunday play & also provide on that day Bands in all your Parks.

This means that Sunday will become the hardest day of the week for your men and you will therefore have to provide an extra staff to insure that your employees secure one day's rest in seven, it is therefore well that your Committee should face the whole of the facts involved in the question Sunday Boating.

### **Ratepayers Meeting at Grange**

As a letter has been addressed to the Lord Mayor protesting against my action in closing the Bowling Greens for play on Sat the 8th inst I think it may be as well to place the whole of the facts before your Committee this morning.

During the night of the 7th inst & the morning of the 8th inst nearly half an inch or to be accurate .44 inch of rain fell up to about noon the weather was damp & there was every indication that the day would be wet. As a consequence instructions were given that no play was to be allowed on the Bowling Greens Tennis Courts & Cricket Pitches. At 12 noon the Green Keeper rang up my office stating that the green was very damp what was he to do regarding the match arranged for that afternoon. He was then informed that a man had been sent to tell him that the Green would be closed for the day. He made a point of seeing one of the officials G. B. [illegible but may be a "C"] & informing him of decision. He did this with a view to giving him time to stop the visiting team coming to Cardiff.

At 1 pm. the sun came out and a slight breeze sprang up but the weather continued threatening & I was quite under the impression that there would not be the slightest chance of using the Greens during the day.

At about 3.30 pm. a deputation of Roath Park Bowlers Tennis Players waited upon me asking if I would inspect the Greens & see if there was any possibility of allowing play if only for a short time.

I acceded to this request & on visiting the Cricket Pitches came to the conclusion that if no more rain fell little or no harm would result so I therefore gave permission for the Clubs on the Ground to play.

I next inspected the Bowling Greens & although I found that the old Green was not fit for play the new Green which stands at a much higher level would not harm if opened for play for a couple of hours.

At 4.30 pm. play commenced & finished at 6.30pm.

The Tennis Courts were too wet for play at first but later on one was opened for about an hour.

When I found that the one Green at Roath Park was playable I gave instruction to have a message sent to thro to Grange that if in the estimation of the Green Attendant the Ground was actually fit he could allow play for an hour or so. This message was sent to the Club but as the officials were too busy the[y] said they could not possibly deliver it. This being the case and there not being anyone to send either to Grange or Splott nothing further could be done in the matter.

### ***Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports***

Even had the message reached the Grange Green the attendant would have found himself in the greatest possible difficulty as he could not have consciencely said the Green was in a fit state to be played on.

The Splott players were in exactly the same position as those at Grange & were not allowed to use their green during the whole of the 8th inst.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
[no signature]  
Chief Officer

The Office  
Roath Park  
Sept 17th 1912

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Games in Park**

Owing to the wet weather experienced during during the past Season I regret to say the revenue from Games has fallen considerably below what it was last year. As it has been considerably less than the amount included in the current years estimate the difference has been added on to the Supplemental Estimates.

The difference over the whole of the Parks & Open Spaces amounts to £181.

#### **Musical Performances**

This Season your Committee made an entirely new arrangement in the way of Musical Performances in the Park by the introduction of Pierrot troops and Musical Parties. So far as can be gathered from this years experience this innovation is likely to prove in every way a thorough success.

The cost of these entertainments were from 30% to 50% less than for the Band Performances and the income derived from them was on the average 40% more.

From the experience of the past two or three years I have come to the conclusion that rather more money is being spent on Wednesday Afternoon Band Performances at the Roath Park than there is any justification for.

Several times each Season Orchestral Bands have played during the afternoon which have cost your Committee £13·13·0 for the single performance. So little have the efforts of these Bands been appreciated that frequently only from 18/- to 25/- have been taken at the Turnstiles. While it is perfectly evident that the value of the Public Band Performances cannot be judged by the monetary returns they give, yet when it is considered that these Bands when engaged during the evening draw thousands of visitors to hear them it seems a great pity that money should be wasted upon them for afternoon performances when at that period of the day they are not appreciated. With the experience of the past few years as a guide, I would certainly recommend that in future no Orchestral Band be engaged to play in the Parks during the afternoon excepting on the occasion of a Public Holiday.

#### **Winter Bathing**

I have received inquiries from a number of bathers frequenting Roath Park Lake as to the probability of your Committee allowing Bathing to continue at the Lake, the whole year through.

According to your present Bye Laws, Bathing at the Lake is only allowed from the 1st May till the 30th of Sept. Last year however your Committee allowed bathing all through the winter so long as there was sufficient water in the Lake for the purpose. Before you grant this privilege again I have thought it well to point out exactly what Winter Bathing means to your Committee.

## **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

Last year a sum of £3·3·0 was obtained from bathers after the close of the ordinary Bathing Season. The cost to your committee of securing this sum amounted to £7. During the whole of the time bathing was permitted a man had to be on duty for an hour each morning to see that no accidents happened. In the depth of winter the gate by the Bathing Stage had to be opened half an hour before the remainder of the Park was opened and a man had to be paid extra for doing so. On Sundays a Boatman had to be in attendance on 8 till 9 in the morning, for this duty he was paid 1/- per hour.

I shall be glad of your instructions as to whether or not you wish the same arrangements made for winter bathing as were made last year.

### **Motor Car for Chief Officer**

Your Chairman (Mr Councillor Roberts) appeared before the Finance Committee on the 2nd ult regarding the resolution passed at your last meeting asking the Council to grant the use of a Motor Car for the Parks Dept, so as to enable me to get into closer touch with the work. The Finance Committee intimate that they could not consider the matter until next March when the estimates for 1913-1914 were under review. Several members afterwards saw the Chairman and intimated that they were afraid for various reasons the scheme would not be supported even in March next.

As it is most important that a Motor Car should be provided for the use of the Parks Dept so it shall be worked to the greatest advantage, I have after consultation with the Chairman decided to offer to provide a two seated car for my use, and run it for the same sum that it at present costs your Committee to provide me with a Pony and Trap. I am also prepared to enter into an agreement containing the following Clauses:-  
(should the Committee desire it)

- (1) I shall undertake to use the Car only for my work and on no occasion for pleasure.
- (2) If I leave the service of the Corporation the Car shall not be left on their hands as it will remain my property.
- (3) At the expiration of six years I shall submit to the City Treasurer all accounts paid in connection with the upkeep etc of the Car & if it is found the total sum paid to me by the Corporation exceeds the maintenance and repayment of the sum spent on the car, plus 3¾%, I am prepared to hand back the surplus to the City Treasurer. If on the other hand the accounts show that the amount paid by the Corporation is less than the cost of upkeep etc, I shall not ask nor expect to have any of this money refunded to me.

Before providing a Car however I must ask for your Committee to give the following undertaking:-

- (1) That I shall not be asked to use the Car for any other purpose than the Trap is used for at present viz solely for the work of the Parks, Small Holdings & Allotments.
- (2) The Corporation shall not alter the arrangement entered in to until the the expiration of six years unless they are prepared to make up the difference between the value of the Car when sold & price originally paid less any amount previously paid for depreciation.
- (3) If my decease should take place before the expiration of the sixth year the Corporation shall pay my widow any difference between the original price paid for the Car and the price for which it is sold after taking into account the sums previously paid for depreciations.
- (4) The allowance for Car shall be paid to me by City Treasurer quarterly in advance.

Should your Committee fall in with my suggestions it means that so far as I am concerned the services of the driver and the pony can immediately be done away with. Two of the permanent Staff

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

have left within the past couple of weeks so in that case the driver can take the place of one of these men and he will not therefore be thrown out of a situation.

As I have more than sufficient work for another horse I shall be glad to keep the pony when of course I would not fill the place of the second man who recently left and our expenses would then remain about the same as before.

One reason why I shall be glad to get an early decision on this question is that it has become absolutely unsafe to drive about in the Trap as both tyre bands of the wheels are now broken.

If it is your intention to continue the use of the present conveyance it will be necessary to immediately spend about ten or twelve pounds to overhaul the whole trap.

### **Football**

The football season opens at the parks on the 21st inst and as usual it is going to be exceedingly difficult to supply pitches for the use of all the Clubs. Up to date applications have been received from 81 Clubs for permits for 918 Matches and before the Season is over quite another 200 match permits will be asked for. When it is remembered that there are only 26 pitches available it will be readily understood how impossible it is to meet the demands which are being made upon us. Should the Secs of Football Clubs approach your Committee: I trust these figures will be borne in mind.

I have the honour to be  
Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant  
W. W. Pettigrew  
Chief Officer

The Office  
Roath Park  
Oct 9th 1912

To the Chairman & Members of the Parks Committee.

Gentlemen

I beg to lay before you the following report:-

### **Roath Park**

#### **Bathing in Lake**

The ordinary Bathing Season at the Roath Park Lake came to a close on the 30th ult. As previously reported the season has been an exceptionally bad one as only 15,519 persons used the boxes this year as compared with 44,000 in 1911. Last year the sum derived from all sources connected with bathing amounted to £336·3·7 whereas £104·13·4 is the total sum handed over to the City Treasurer for the current year.

A number of the members of Roath Park Swimming Club are continuing to Bathe in the Lake during the Winter and these have undertaken to pay the expense incurred in keeping a man in attendance an hour each morning.

#### **Boat Shelter**

Four contractors commenced erecting the Boat Shelter at the Lake on the 30th ult, and I am pleased to say they are beginning to make good progress.

#### **Returfing Old Bowling Green**

The Town Clerk has been good enough to send me on a copy of Petition presented by the Roath Park Bowling Club, on this subject, and with a view to saving the time of your Committee, I have thought it well to report fully on the various points raised by the Secretary of the Club.

In the first place it may be as well to draw the attention of your Committee to the fact that since the advent of better organised Public Bowling Green Clubs, the standard of play on Public Greens has been so improved in every way that it is quite equal to that seen on any private green in the Country. This has been brought about by the continuous rivalry which has been fostered between different Clubs formed in the same and adjoining Towns. As an outcome of this competitions are being played constantly on Public Greens and these have now become more the arenas where rivals compete for mastery over each other, than meeting places for elderly folk to enjoy the pleasure of a quiet game.

This being so it naturally follows that the Public Green itself must now be of the best and most up-to-date type, otherwise those who use it are at a great disadvantage when competing with bowlers who have a good green to play upon.

If your Committee are prepared to recognise – and I hardly think you can do otherwise – that it is your duty to provide the players on you Greens with the best conditions for carrying on the game of Bowls, then it goes without saying, that the request of the Roath Park Club asking to have the old Bowling Green relayed with sea-washed turf is quite a reasonable one provided you have the means at your disposal for doing so.

### **Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports**

At present, the old green is covered with ordinary meadow turf whereas the so called New Green is laid with sea-washed turf. As the character of each of the two is so distinct it is almost impossible for anyone using these greens alternately to maintain anything like a uniform standard of play. On this account it is not unusual to find that when practising for competitions players prefer only to use the new green.

So far as I can see it would be quite impossible to relay the old green with sea-washed turf for anything less than £100, and at present you have nothing in your estimates for this purpose. However if your Committee can see your way to spend this sum of money then the sooner the work is put in hand now to better.

There is one statement in the petition bearing on this point which it will not be advisable for your Committee to accept viz. that for this outlay you "will be amply rewarded financially". The days for regarding Bowling Greens as financial investments are past and gone, for it is generally recognised that on account of the increased cost of upkeep necessary now to maintain greens in the best playable condition it takes Bowling Greens all their time to pay their way. If they do this then Park Authorities have every reason to be well satisfied without seeking any financial gain.

As a matter of fact the latest published accounts relating to the Bowling Greens in Edinburgh show an actual loss on these during the past five years.

With regard to the suggestion about taking up the clover patches on the new green and replacing them with fresh turf I am afraid no calculation as to the likely cost of this operation has been worked out otherwise the suggestion would hardly have been made.

To carry such a recommendation would mean relaying almost half of the green with new turf.

When clover appears in an ordinary lawn it is generally a simple matter to eradicate it by feeding the grasses in such a way that they are able to choke it out along with other weeds. As strong growing grasses are not desired on a Bowling Green, this method of eradicating the weeds is almost out of the question, but we are doing our best this winter by free use of sand to reduce the vigour of the clover as much as we possibly can.

### **Season Tickets**

It is to be hoped for many reasons that your Committee will refuse to accede to the request to issue Season Tickets for the use of Bowlers on your public Greens. So far as an assured revenue is concerned there is hardly any fear of your ever being without that. Even during the present year when the weather has been so unfavourable for outdoor games, your income from the Roath Park Greens amounted to over £49.

Taking the price of Season Tickets at the 7/6 mentioned in the letter the assured revenue derived from the Club if every member purchased a ticket would amount to only £37·10·0 for which you practically hand over the monopoly of the greens.

A report which I presented to your Committee on this subject in 1908 may throw some light upon the question if read to you at this time.

I have the honour to be Gentlemen  
Your Obedient Servant

***Cardiff Parks Superintendent's Reports***

W. W. Pettigrew  
Chief Officer

[The last entry in this book is on page 162 which contains the text above. The remainder of the pages in the book are empty and the last page is 512.]