**Citizens Park Users Group Meeting 1 discussion summary:**

19 March 2015

During introductions, participants referred to the **strong sense of community** and how this should be built upon. Similarly, **inclusivity** was raised but different versions of how this would look.

**Safety** of people, children and dogs was a core issue during discussions. Solutions varied depending on the stakeholder group.

*Would a shared understanding of what it feels to be safe assist in finding solutions for all users?*

**Signage** was raised as a simple solution, but this led to a question of what it is to be **socially responsible**.

*What can Council and park users do to encourage social responsibility in using Citizens park?*

**Intensity of use** was a problem identified and is unlikely to reduce, a question of how the use can be dissipated at peak times was discussed. One participant suggested it is not all about Citizens Park, and minor infrastructure changes at another park might mean people have options to go elsewhere when Citizens Park is busy.

*What makes Citizens Park attractive to users and how could this be replicated or met elsewhere?*

Further to the issue of intense use, **turf management** was briefly raised. It is a challenge for Council to do the necessary work when the ground attracts high use, year round.

*What would be an acceptable period of time for closure or limited access to the grounds for comprehensive work to the turf?* For example; 2,3 or 4 weeks? Once or twice a year? How long is too long?