



**This is one
of twenty
“Tales from
the
Commons.”**

Prickend Pond – since 1888



References to the pond in our Minute Books since 1888, when the Act that protects the commons was passed, reflect changes in society.

In 1889, there had been complaints about “*indecent bathing*” and it was decided that “*persons could bathe only in the Overflow and that before 6 a.m.*”.

In 1901, notices were put up prohibiting traction engine drivers from taking water from the pond.

In 1903, it was reported that boys had been spoiling the ice before it was strong enough to skate on. This was clearly an important issue at the time, and the Keeper was authorised to employ an extra man to help deal with it.

In 1930, a final plan “*for the provision of an island for the protection of the ducks*”, was agreed. The original plan placed the island nearer to the bank.

In 1947, complaints were made about the noise of children playing round the pond, but the Board felt that the Keeper would be able to ensure that “*nothing was done which would detract any enjoyment of the commons by the general public*”.

The Act that protects the Commons made no provision for funding.

If you would like to support our work of maintaining the 180 acres, please visit our website www.chislehurstcommons.uk or go to PayPal Giving at



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