

## STATEMENT FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Canada Geese

Although not party to the culling of the Canada Geese, the Friends of Dartmouth Park and the Sandwell Stride Health Walkers have constantly complained that they are taking over the Park and deterring other species of wildlife. There is also a worry in regard to their droppings, which completely cover the paths around the upper and lower pools and beyond into the grassed areas. As a group we feel that this is particularly dangerous to children when playing in these areas and also it makes it very difficult for walkers, including the Sandwell Stride Health Walkers who we are trying to encourage into the Park, to negotiate these pools.

Dartmouth Park wants to welcome all to enjoy its amenities, including families, seniors, dog walkers, animal lovers and all species of wildlife. However, wildlife in a Park has to be managed to keep the right balance, just as it would be naturally managed in the countryside and there are no natural predators in a Park to do this job.

Carol Hartill  
Secretary to the Friends of Dartmouth Park  
February 2015