

WIMBLEDON TIMES

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Woman 'raped as she walked home alone' through a Wimbledon park

By Ellie Cambridge



A forensic tent in Dundonald Recreation Ground.

A woman called police in the early hours of Sunday to report she had been raped.

The 34-year-old woman was walking from Wimbledon through Dundonald recreation ground in Dundonald Road when she alleges she was attacked at about 1.30am.



The police tent and cordon, pictured above, in Dundonald recreation ground.

She told police she was raped by a man she did not know as she was walking home.

She was taken to Haven Sexual Assault Referral Centre.



A police officer stands guard at the park gates.

Officers from Sexual Offences, Exploitation and Child Abuse Command are investigating.

No arrests have been made.

Anyone with information should call 020 8721 4106 or 101.

https://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/13895552.Woman__raped__as_she_walked_home_alone_through_Wimbledo_n_park/?ref=mr&lp=1

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18th November 2015

Rape allegation in Dundonald recreation ground Wimbledon no longer being investigated

By Pippa Allen-Kinross



A police woman guards the park where the rape was alleged to have happened

Detectives are no longer investigating a rape in a Wimbledon park after the allegation was withdrawn.

It was alleged that a 34-year-old woman was walking home from Wimbledon town centre through Dundonald recreation ground in Dundonald Road when she said she was raped by a man she did not know.

The attack was said to have happened at 1.30am on Sunday, October 25.

The woman was taken to the Haven Sexual Assault Referral Centre and officers from the Sexual Offences, Exploitation and Child Abuse Command investigated the allegation.

The rape allegation was withdrawn on Tuesday, November 17.

Shortly before on Wednesday, November 11, Merton borough commander Detective Chief Superintendent Stuart Macleod said that police were no longer treating the alleged rape as a "stranger attack".



A forensic tent in Dundonald recreation ground

In a statement, Det Ch Supt Macleod said: "In light of this, I do not feel that there is any current need to provide specialist advice around how people should protect themselves.

"Local residents should continue with their normal lifestyle and take their usual precautions."

Residents around Dundonald Road expressed concern and many complained that the park gates were not locked at night.

James McGinlay, head of sustainable communities at Merton Council, insisted that the gates are locked every night at a public meeting on November 11, but residents were not convinced.

One resident said: "I live opposite the park and there's been lots of times when I walk past the park and all the gates are open."

Another added: "The gates are left open. They are not consistently locked at night."

"Many people here think this was an accident waiting to happen."

<https://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/14040035.rape-allegation-in-wimbledon-park-withdrawn/>