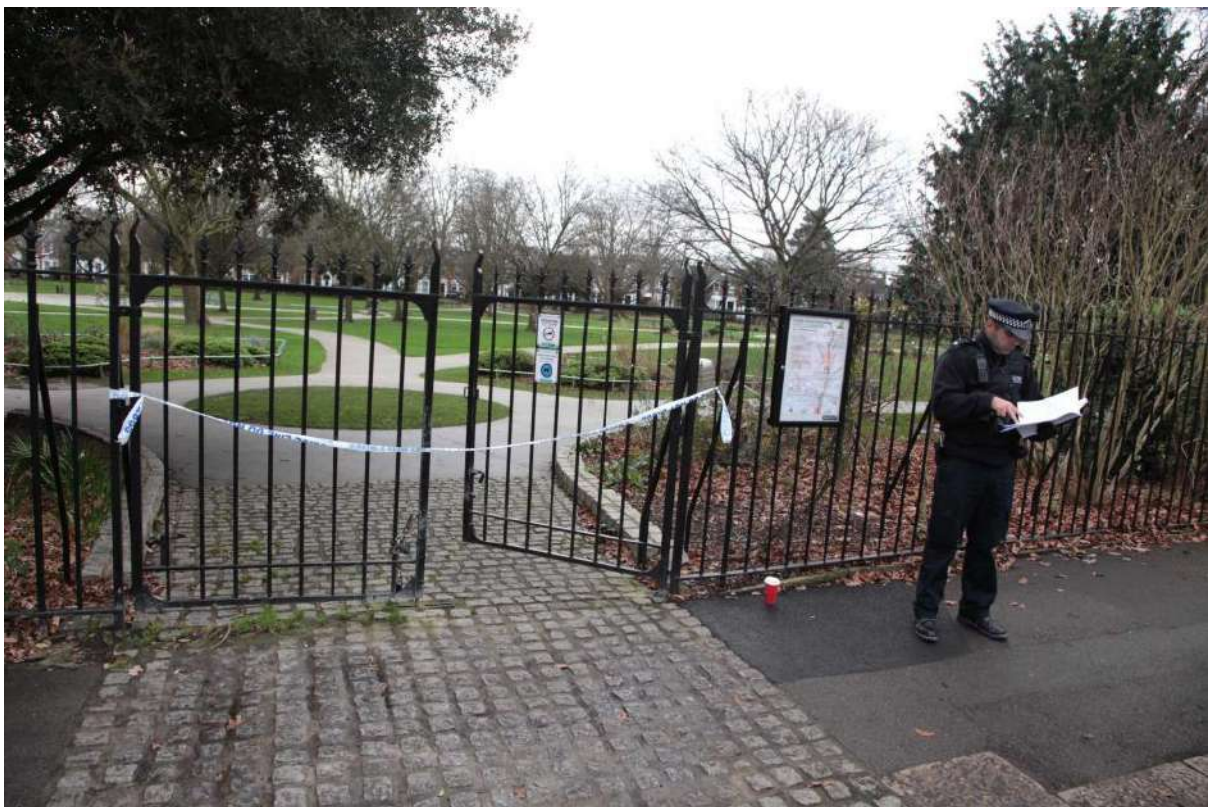


Updated: South Park Gardens closed in Wimbledon while police investigate sexual assault

21st December 2015
By Becky Middleton



Crime scene: A police officer guards South Park Gardens in Wimbledon

Forensic teams remain at a Wimbledon park this morning investigating an alleged sexual assault yesterday.



Detectives from the Sexual Offences, Exploitation and Child Abuse Command are investigating after reports were made of a sexual assault in South Park Gardens on Sunday, December 20.

Outdoors exercise class Buggyfit has been cancelled because of the police presence and the park is closed while investigations continue.

No arrests have been made.

<https://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/14158799.updated-south-park-gardens-closed-in-wimbledon-while-police-investigate-sexual-assault/>

Case dropped: Two 16 year-olds face no further action over charges of multiple rapes, knife possession and assault at South Park Gardens, Wimbledon

By Becky Middleton

27th January 2016



A policeman stands guard at South Park Gardens in December

Two 16 year-old boys charged with multiple counts of rape, sexual assault and carrying a knife in a park have had the cases against them dropped.

The boys, who cannot be identified but live in Mitcham, appeared at Kingston Crown Court earlier this month after the incident in South Park Gardens, Wimbledon, *pictured below*.



The community reeled in shock after police were spotted investigating the crime on Sunday, December 20 last year.

The pair were due to be back in court in March to enter a plea.

One boy faced seven charges, including four counts of rape against 15-year-old girls, carrying a knife, sexual assault and causing actual bodily harm.

At the time he was kept in a youth detention centre.

The other teenager was charged with two counts of rape against a 14-year-old girl and a 15-year-old girl.

But a Crown Prosecution Service spokeswoman said after new evidence came to light, it decided there was not a realistic prospect of conviction on any of the charges.

The spokesperson said: "This case was charged under the Threshold Test of the Code for Crown Prosecutors.

"Following receipt of further evidence we reviewed the case under the Full Code Test and concluded that there was insufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction on any of the charges.

"We have therefore discontinued the case against both defendants."

<https://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/14233033.case-dropped-two-16-year-olds-face-no-further-action-over-charges-of-multiple-rapes-knife-possession-and-assault-at-south-park-gardens-wimbledon/>