

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 16th July 2008
(Sandalwood Centre)

Apologies: M Woodland, C Speechley, B Boughen

Present: R & J Ketley, S & D Crabtree, B Darrand, W & N Gethin, M Hood, M Smith, C & C Burton, D Ward, Pc K Hughes, S Coddington, E Hughes, N Marshall

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and agreed.

2. Matters arising

1. Shell Better Britain – Sandra couldn't find any information relating to funding.
2. Sandra informed the group that we'd been granted the bursary from CVS which allowed us up to £200 in course fees which they run. She had applied for two for herself – Law and the volunteer and Finances for Charities. Any member of the group wishing to attend a course can select from the opportunities available. Don suggested circulating the brief details to everyone via email.

ACTION: Sandra to circulate details of courses to everyone.

3. Business Plan

- (a) The Business Plan has been approved by the police and Carly Speechley.
- (b) Neil M advised that a new approach on park safety is being tried during school holidays and a rota has been set up for weekend working.

(c) Crime Reduction: The Old Golf Course

- i. The removal of the conifers along Thorne road had been included in the winter programme for completion October – February 09.
- ii. £2,030 was required for equipment and labour would be provided in house. It was agreed that £1,000 be allocated from FOSP funds and the balance found from other sources.
- iii. Mairaid suggested contacting The Civic Trust to approach them for a donation for replacement trees.
- iv. Neil M suggested the Structural Crime Reduction Fund might be an appropriate place to look for help with the project.
- v. A survey would be required along Thorne Road.

ACTION: Mairaid to look into funding for trees from Civic Trust.
Sandra will look at SCRF.

- (d) Neil M said he would approach Earth Tech Morrison about the drain in the park to see if they could assist.
- (e) Neil M said that he'd received notification today that the toilets will no longer be funded and will close in September. This despite assurances

¹ In accordance with the new Charity Commission Constitution, all general meetings shall be called Special General Meetings.

that they would now be funded until being included in the budget for next year. Further enquiries will need to be made.

- (f) The additional picnic bench funded by FOSP has been purchased and is awaiting installation near the dell.
- (g) The frame fronts for the new notice boards are currently being sand-blasted to get rid of the old paint, and the frames themselves are awaiting installation when workload permits.

4 **Events**

(a) Charity Walks

The Aurora Centre event on 7th September is ongoing and arrangements are in hand. Firm commitments are now needed. All present said they would be available to act as marshalls.

(b) Music in the Park

Sandra said she believed that the concert should be part of the Hothouse Festival and that we should now be making representation to the organisers for it to be included next year and for them to do the organisation. She has liaised with Stephen Coddington about this and he has agreed to take up the case. They will meet to discuss this at a later date.

ACTION: Stephen and Sandra to meet re plan for 2009

(c) Race Night

Neil G gave an update on the event which was a success. He read out letters he had written to Armthorpe Community Centre (unexpected charge) and to Friends of Grove Gardens (promised sponsorship). £750 was raised and Lloyds TSB bank have donated a further £500 as matched funding due to the efforts of their employee Neil Gethin. A vote of thanks to Neil and Will was passed unanimously.

Marianne has donated £100 to cover the cost of the hire of the hall – this should be returned to her if the letter to Armthorpe Community Centre reaps a return of our money. A note of thanks to be sent to Marianne by Sandra

(d) FOSP social event

The rounders game was such a success that it was proposed to pursue this and encourage others to partake and use the golf course area. Don proposed to buy a full set of rounders equipment (around £80) which we could then lend out to families, groups or companies who wished to borrow them at no charge. Agreed.

It was proposed to hold another such event on Sunday 10th August at 3pm on the old golf course – weather permitting. Neil M suggested Intake Community Enterprise may have some kit they no longer need. He also mentioned the staging that was still available.

ACTION: Don to: 1. Acquire a rounders set.
2. Explore the possibility of acquiring staging.

(e) Quiz Night:

Reminder for 24th October. Tickets £2, no food provided but can be purchased on the night. A few tickets are remaining.

5. Angling Club

The quote for the electrics for a fountain stands at £6300 which is unattainable. Neil M suggested contacting YEB to see if they have a community fund for such eventualities.

ACTION: Sandra to explore this.

6. Funding

- (a) £29.92 received from Weather lottery.
- (b) Neil presented an updated financial status.
- (c) Sandra presented invoices for payment for paint, print cartridges etc.

7. Projects

Make a Difference Day/volunteer week

1. This falls on 25th October this year so the week commencing 20th October was suggested for work to begin.
2. The intention this year being to further develop the bog pond and garden.
3. Funding for reeds and plants has been submitted to SYCF.
4. DMBC are hopefully going to provide some fencing to block off the corner near the depot to create a wildlife area.
5. The privet hedge will be taken down as a crime prevention measure.
6. Litter to be cleared.

8. Any Other Business

- (a) Ron informed the group that the generator had been loaned to WACUP but refused to start. Andy West has offered to get this rectified and requested that we loan it to the Baptist Church for a youth camp in return. Agreed.
- (b) Carol said she was concerned about the amount of male ducks killing the females during mating season. RSPB have been contacted about this but no response has been made. Apparently it's normal behaviour.
- (c) Mairaid requested a talk to Cusworth park in the New Year.
- (d) Sandra said that she'd been contacted by a man in Cheadle, Cheshire who had some Indian runner duck chicks that needed re-homing. They'd been raised by children in a nursery from hatching and were now too big for the paddling pool, could we take them on? They'd seen our articles about runner ducks on the web site. Arrangements have been made for them to arrive tomorrow (Thursday).
ACTION: Sandra & Don to meet the ducks
- (e) Sandra said that the format of the minutes would now change as most subjects come under the heading of Business Plan.

9. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 13th August 2008

Note: 1 week earlier than normal due to holidays.

