

## Friends of Sandall Park

### **Minutes of Special General Meeting<sup>1</sup> held Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

**Present:** S & D Crabtree, M Hood, J & R Ketley, N & W Gethin, J Hall, B Darrand  
M Smith, D Ward

**Apologies:** Apologies, D & E Hughes, B Boughen, M Woodland

Sandra welcomed new member Jacqueline Hall and thanked her for her interest.

#### **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved,

#### **2. Matters arising**

- (a) Sandra and Don have a meeting planned with Insp. England next week as a result of Sandra's letter to Chief Supt. Cassidy, and have also met the new neighbourhood manager, Carly Speechly. They felt she was supportive and would prove to be a good ally in partnership working.
- (b) Interviews for a park worker will take place next week. There seemed to be some confusion as to whether one had already been appointed or not.

#### **3. Park Future**

##### **(a) Charitable Status**

- (i) Charity number 1120679 has been allocated to FOSP. Neil Gethin will investigate the benefits to be had from our new status, for example, whether we have to pay VAT or not. He will also look into the possibility of the Lloyds T S B Foundation as a possible source of funding.
- (ii) All our correspondence, including cheque books must contain the charity number.
- (iii) Three members (Don, Sandra and Mairaid) had attended a free training session for trustees of a charity. This was funded by Doncaster CVS and was a very informative 3 hours. The chair purchased a reference document which was promoted at the session. The cost of £20 would be invoiced to FOSP. It contains information relating to charities and the responsibilities of trustees, with updates to be provided by CVS.

##### **(b) Business Plan**

Siggy had notified Sandra that because of pressure of work she had requested to be a "sleeping partner" in the group at the moment. This was agreed and a vote of thanks given to Siggy for all her work on the Business Plan. Sandra has sent her a letter and a small gift of thanks. In view of all other activities at present, it was decided that the business plan should be shelved with regard to the proposed animal farm section and concentration would centre around the smaller projects within the plan.

##### **(c) Crime in the Park**

- (i) Police had promised to give attention to damage created in park though it was noted that all of the constables in the community

---

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

police team had been transferred elsewhere (hence Sandra's letter to Chief Supt. Cassidy). Don said that the graffiti damage seemed to have eased off lately. This was believed to be as a result of our continued campaign to rectify the damage as soon as it was caused, and being very public in our enquiries to trace offenders. He was writing to the ASBO Unit for publicity re the park damage and the resultant ASBO against a local youth. They had said they would do a poster for the park, but Don felt it needed wider publicity to get the message across.

- (ii) Graffiti had been noticed in the male toilets, believed caused by a certain section of the community and a historical problem for the park. Community First were trying to keep this under control, rectifying the damage as soon as it caused, as was the case with other damage.
- (iii) Three youths had been seen by police and either cautioned or given warnings for damage to benches. They were going to pay £20 towards the damage, a letter had been written to the parents.

(c) Toilet Facilities

Moira said that Gail Newton had commented that she had been receiving constant calls from a resident at Hatfield complaining about the state of the toilets, and she had informed him that she was wasting resources sending out staff to check them out when in fact there was nothing wrong with them, which would ultimately result in insufficient funds to keep them open. Sandra expressed surprise: she had had dealings with the named resident and didn't believe he would complain unnecessarily. It was he who had successfully campaigned to get the toilets opened in the first instance.

**4 Events**

(a) Health Walks

Had taken place in the park led by Geraldine and Don and Sandra, though public interest had been non-existent.

(b) Tuby's Fair

£375 was raised by the tombola at the Noddy day in the park of which £200 had been donated by Roger Tuby. Sandra has sent a letter of thanks to Mr Tuby. Thanks too to volunteers Holly and Neil Marshall, Eva and Derek Hughes, Moira Hood and Don. Don had created a hall of shame poster of all the damage which was displayed on our stand. Roger Tuby took copies of the photos and arranged for his staff to show them to customers. There was a lot of interest in the stand and we gained more 'friends' in our campaign to make the park nice.

**4. Angling Club**

No report but Debbie said that designated areas for fishing had now been established and signs would be erected.

**6. Funding**

- (a) Weather lottery this month is £25.20
- (b) Sandra asked if anyone had sold any envelope labels? None so far.

**7. Projects**

(a) Feasibility Studies

This is no longer an issue, funding is not now available as we were first led to believe, and as Siggy is becoming a 'sleeping partner', there is no one to take it on. Ron will write to the company who were successful on tendering for the study, and to Ian Marshall who was to be our partner in the venture.

**ACTION:** Ron to write to all concerned

(b) Wildlife/Nature trail

Still waiting for the go ahead to start purchasing items. The finance agreement has been signed and sent back, just waiting for confirmation.

**8. Any Other Business**

(a) Ron said that the Caravan Club band of which he was a member, had suggested a concert in the park next year. Members agreed it would not be practical, it was hard enough to finance and put on our own concert, unless they wanted to organise and finance it themselves.

(b) Don has arranged a FOSP quiz night for 25th January at the Club 39. This will be an opportunity for fund raising and an evening of entertainment. Members were encouraged to promote the event.

(c) Sandra was proposed as a signatory on our bank account.

(d) The Christmas meeting was discussed with a view to changing it to a social night as last year. An option is the Wheatley Hotel, Sandra will make enquiries. It would be on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**ACTION:** Sandra to make enquiries with Wheatley Hotel

**9. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 17th Oct. Sandalwood Centre