

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 2nd December 2009
(Sandalwood Centre)

Apologies: M Smith, C & C Burton, Community Warden M Wainwright, L Nokes, W Gethin, M Hood

Present: S & D Crabtree, N Gethin, D & M Ward, N Marshall, S Coddington, E Hughes, D Bewell, R & J Ketley, M Downing, S Stokes, C Yates

Chair welcomed Chris Yates, Activities Engagement Officer for DMBC; Marianne Downing (has been a member for some time but unable to attend meetings) and Sarah Stokes, new member.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and agreed,

2. Matters arising

- i. Chair confirmed that FOSP had received a Gold Standard certificate for the Doncaster in Bloom competition. Copies were now displayed in the notice boards and on the web site. Thanks to all for their efforts.
- ii. No update from Moira with regards to the perimeter fence situation.
- iii. Debbie produced an example of the calendar that she has designed. 100 have now been ordered and will arrive tomorrow. Discussion took place as to price to charge, though some will be given out to certain groups for free, and £3.50 was agreed. Debbie was thanked for all her efforts.

3. Business Plan

3(i). Crime

- a. No information available on whether the assault against the bailiff, or the wire across the footpath have been detected by police.
- b. No real vandalism other than minor graffiti near the play area which was cleaned up by DMBC as soon as it was discovered.
- c. Don had been interviewed for TV and radio re the two boys currently in custody, and who had caused problems in the park. The message to the media being that anti-social behaviour is not tolerated in Sandall Park and will be dealt with accordingly.

3(ii) Park Development

a. Golf Course Grant

- (i) The trees are due to go in week commencing 7th December which is National Tree Week.
- (ii) Neil M and Chris Yates outlined their submission of the golf course project for the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) awards which is a national initiative to recognise community groups working in partnership with Local Authorities.

b. Playbuilder Funding

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

There will be a slight delay in this development – additional top soil will be required and this is being funded by the ward councillors from their flexible budget.

The making good of the boat house area will go ahead as planned. The metal Victorian type gate and gate posts which would have been taken out have been donated to Friends of Askern Lake – they noticed them on their visit and requested them to enhance their Victorian theme at Askern Lake. Thanks to DMBC for facilitating this.

Future Projects

There is no update from the contractors, though an email has been sent requesting any information that may be available. Lisa Hunter has drawn up the ODR which the ward councillors have seen and agreed. It will only be sent round departments when further correspondence is received from the contractors.

3(iii) Angling Club

No representative from the angling club present though Neil M gave a resumé of the meeting he and warden Mick Wainwright had had with Barrie. The indications were that Barrie and Russ were unsupported by their club in the running of the angling in the park and felt they couldn't continue when their annual subscription is due in April.

Discussions took place as to whether to continue with angling if Corner Pin did withdraw, or have a trial period without angling and monitor the situation.

Several reasons put forward for discontinuance was the fishing debris left (not necessarily by the club), lack of policing of anglers, injuries to wildlife, and the preference for it to return to a wildlife area. It was suggested that to deter illegal fishing, the lake be netted, or similar. It was put to the vote and unanimously agreed to dispense with angling in the lake for a trial period should the Corner Pin not renew their lease.

3(iv) Communications

- (i) Don reported that Flicks Media, who had designed the web site, have now ceased trading and gone into other business ventures. It had been his intention to seek additional training from them to manage the technicalities of the web site but it had not been possible. He has since learned the intricacies himself.
- (ii) Don has renewed the web hosting for three years at a cost of £150.

3(v) Funding/Events

a. Santa Dash

- (i) Take up so far has been good with over 200 registered to date.
- (ii) Volunteers were requested for marshalling – Stephen and Catherine Coddington; Sarah Stokes' husband Colin; Neil & Will Gethin; Eva Hughes; two ladies from walking club. To be at park 10.15am, SNT will be present from 8am.
- (iii) Don requested gritting for the paths prior to the event. Neil M suggested contacting Lisa Nokes.
- (iv)

ACTION: Sandra to email Lisa and request gritting

- (v) Two ladies and their daughters were given free entry to the run/walk (paid for by FOSP) as a public relations exercise – they were the families involved in the fishing line incident.

b. Music in the Park 2010

Agreed that the concert should aim to start about 5pm and into the evening. M Ward will provide transport for staging.

c. Race Night

Neil Gethin reported that overall the takings were £505. This has been matched with a £500 donation from Lloyds TSB. Neil was thanked for his efforts and acquiring the extra funds from his employer.

d. Quiz Night

Confirmed for January 29th at Club 39, tickets £2 each. All bookings to Don.

e. Funding

(i) Lottery income was £25.92 this month.

(ii) YTV has expressed an interest in sending a donation to the group for £150.

f. Treasurers Report

Neil G presented his report and said he was compiling the end of year report for the Charity Commission.

4. Any Other Business

a. Don pointed out some photo's worth looking at on the web site which had been sent in by a regular contributor, B Irvine, and which were outstanding.

b. Neil M said that Sandall Park had played a role in the area receiving an accolade for being litter free in The Neighbourhood Award for Doncaster in Bloom.

c. Stephen Coddington confirmed that the Doncaster Detection Trust have requested a charity run in the park. (If Aurora hadn't taken up the idea of the Santa Dash, DCDT would have accepted it). An Easter event was offered as an alternative). Details to be confirmed, but the weekend before Easter – 28 March 2010 – was requested. Further arrangements to be made.

d. Sandra requested numbers for the Christmas meeting at the Wheatley Hotel and menu choices. A menu will be sent round by email.

e. Neil G reported that he still had unclaimed prizes from the Race Night – taken by Don to distribute to winners.

5. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 16th December Christmas meeting at the Wheatley Hotel.

Next proper meeting: Wednesday 20th January 2010, which is also AGM