

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 16th June 2010
(Sandalwood Centre)

Apologies: S Coddington, D Ward, C & C Burton, M Smith, M Downing, D Bewell, E Hughes, L & L Handley

Present: R & J Ketley, D & S Crabtree, S Stokes, M Hood, N & W Gethin, N Marshall, M Wainwright, N Kilburn, L Nokes, C Bacon (Helping Hands) C Hunter, A Denman

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and agreed.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

i. Moira Hood still has no resolution for the damaged fencing. Matter ongoing.

ACTION: Moira to continue with this issue

ii. Dog control order – no update yet from Rachael Blake.

ACTION: Rachael to follow up Dog Control Order

iii. 7 day rule for tracing offenders - no update yet from Rachael Blake.

ACTION: Rachael to follow up 7 day rule

iv. CCTV - no update yet from Rachael.

ACTION: Rachael to follow up Data Controller

(Rachael was due to phone today with updates for all the above but got tied up with other matters).

iv. Sarah provided a resume of the Pond Survey which went very well and showed that we have a very healthy bog pond. The results can be seen at OpalExplore.org.web. Mark Thompson, councillor for environment had been informed of the result and was pleased and encouraged by the group's work, as was Mayor Davies.

v. Sandra has had an email from Mark Thompson saying that negotiations were still being undertaken with regards to the lake edging.

3. Business Plan

3(i). Crime

i. Another fencing panel has been damaged by a vehicle crashing into it near the cafe. Our concert banner was also slightly damaged.

ii. The toilets have been blocked again – toilet rolls have been forced down the toilet bowls in the ladies.

iii. Unsavory activities by men are on the increase. Members of the group and members of the public have observed men going behind the substation near to the Wheatley Hotel, in the shelter near the main lake and one member of the public has seen two men either having sex or simulating sex on the golf course near to the two park houses – on more than one occasion. One web site in particular extols the virtues of Sandall Park for 'meets' with its quiet areas.

ACTION: 1. Mick W to contact Renee Brown of SYP with a view to messages being put on appropriate web sites.

2. Sandra to request police attention

iv. Someone keeps pulling the water lilies out of the bog pond and leaving them on the side. Neil K (who has been putting them back in) suggested it was people fishing and getting them caught in their lines.

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

3(ii) Park Development

a. Boat House Area

ILM will hopefully be progressing this issue. Don also suggested that the ILM team be asked to repair the damaged fencing if some spare panels could be sourced.

b. Future Projects

i. Obstacle Course

Sandra produced rough plans for an obstacle course which could be built for children or dogs and their owners to use, built from recycled materials. Ian Parker and Tony Winder to be consulted as to the possibility for installation. Agreed.

ACTION: Sandra to pursue

ii. Playbuilders

Sandra suggested that Tom Thumb steel benches (child size benches) would be a nice addition to the Playbuilder site and perhaps FoSP could fund a couple? Neil M said they had no objection as long as Ian Parker agreed to their quality for the park.

ACTION: Sandra to enquire about this possibility

c. Spring Drain

The drainage people have been out and done a study. Discussions are taking place as to how to progress the problem. Neil K suggested digging it out and filling it with hardcore.

d. Sponsorship

Ready Steady Store is keen to help with all projects and have offered the use of their gazebo as well as staff for events. Their help is really appreciated. They donated £500 to sponsor Music in the Park (which had to be cancelled) but £320 was used for additional banners and the balance will pay for ancillary items.

3(iii) Angling Club

Sandra reported that Anita was meeting with the Legal Dept last week about a change to regulations, but nothing had been heard since. The matter needs to be resolved as soon as possible as 'rogue' anglers are increasing in numbers. Thanks were offered to C Hunter and A Denman for making the effort to attend the meeting.

ACTION: Sandra to follow up with Anita.

3(iv) Communications

i. The web site has had most visits of all during May which were searches for the FakeFest. June has already reached that total with people searching for the concert. Some good comments were left about how up to date the web site was in informing people of the situation with the concert.

ii. Don did interviews with Radio Sheffield about the concert and two for Sine FM – one about the concert and one about the park in general.

3(v) Funding

a. Funding

Lottery income this month is £34.65.

b. Treasurers Report

Nothing new to report, the balance is still healthy.

3(vi) Events

a. Fake Festival

i. Was a sell out and a huge success. Jez is looking to sponsor a bench in the park as his contribution to FoSP.

ii. Neil K said that at tea time on Saturday, the litter around the park and the lake was horrendous – but by Sunday morning there wasn't any litter whatsoever. FakeFestivals had obviously not only cleaned their own rubbish but had gone way beyond their boundaries and cleared up everyone else's rubbish too, which was to be commended.

- b. Music in the Park 2010
- i. Was cancelled on the morning of the concert due to the wet weather.
- ii. A proposed date for the next one is Sept 12th – which it was agreed the Doncaster Concert Band should be able to fund raise for themselves.
- iii. We can't carry the cash over to next year to pay for another concert and we have to spend it before the end of September. Don suggested buying an extra double gazebo that would be of great use for all the events we hold on the golf course. Agreed. Neil M said two separate ones might be more appropriate.
- iv. Generator to be hired for any events that we need one for.
- v. Neil M said that SNT might not be available to help as much due to changes in working patterns that may be in place by then.
- vi. Sarah will write to all the raffle prize donors thanking them and asking if we can use their prizes for the Race Night.
- vii. Lisa said that Doncaster Live ended about the 12th September and perhaps the next concert could be tagged onto that?
ACTION: Sandra to make appropriate enquiries
- viii. Don asked Neil M if there would be any objection to opening up the gate next to the depot and putting in a removable bollard. This would enable us to use that entrance for car parking and taking the vehicles away from the entrance nearest to the playground. If there was a cost implication FoSP could pay for it, and request the ILM team to do the work when they move into the park. Agreed.
ACTION: Don to approach ILM team with a view to implementation.
- c. Tombola – August BH .
Eva not present – to be deferred. Anyone available to help to put names forward please. Volunteers will be required to collect and erect the gazebo as Don and Sandra won't be available.
- d. Care To Run.
- i. Leaflets, posters and entry forms handed out.
- ii. Ready Steady Store staff will attend and help and also bring bottled water to distribute to participants.

4. Any Other Business

- a. Jean asked what was to become of present generator. Agreed to have it mended and then sell it.
- b. Colin Bacon was here representing Helping Hands. On 26th June they will be working in park with Lisa's team to do jobs in the park.
- c. BTCV 'grow your own food' cards were handed out.
- d. Neil K and Sandra said that the rat population seems to have been dealt with as a result of an email to DMBC customer services.
- e. Sandra had received a phone call requesting Thomas the Tank Engine rides be allowed in the park. She had spoken to Anita about this and put the caller in touch with her and hopefully the scheme would be implemented shortly.
- f. Moira said Kerry Gold Butter are apparently running a grant scheme for community groups
ACTION: Don to look into it
- g. Don reported that the Grassroots Grant for shopping bags has now been fully signed off.
- h. The grant from the Police Authority for dog poo kits has also now been fully signed off by Don and we have a large supply of kits to distribute in the park.
- i. Neil K reported that lottery funding was available for nature projects.

5. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21st July 2010, 7pm