

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 19th August 2009
(Sandalwood Centre)

Apologies: S Coddington, N Marshall, M & D Ward, E Hughes

Present: R & J Ketley, S & D Crabtree, N & W Gethin, M Hood, L Nokes, B Boughen, M Smith, D Bewell, M Wainwright

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and agreed.

2. Matters arising

- i. The Mayor Mr Davis had visited the park and discussed the way forward with Stephen Coddington, Don & Sandra. He was pleased with how the park looked and had not been expecting it to be in such a good state. Mr Davis was very supportive of the work being undertaken and asked if we wanted anything from him, he was asked to facilitate more support from higher up in the Council.
- ii. Lisa had provided a contact for funding for bags, Sandra submitted an application to Doncaster Recycling Partnership which had been granted and the bags were now on order. A presentation and cheque handover is to take place in September,
- iii. Joy had been asked about placing a FOSP collection tin in the cafe. She had no objection but did say that their tips tin was always being stolen. It was decided against the idea.
- iv. The Biomass project wasn't going to be straightforward. If we wanted our own building, we would have to submit the funding application, with assistance, and be responsible for the building in conjunction with SNT. This isn't a priority for us and will not be progressed.
- v. The disabled parking bays have now been marked out.

3. Business Plan

3(i). Crime

a Benches.

The golf course benches are being repeatedly gouged with names. They have been re-painted 5 times in the last two weeks. Don asked if attention could be paid and youngsters spoken to. This would inevitably put a stop to it. Mick Wainwright said that they (SNT and police) were too short staffed and had other priorities.

b Undesirable activities in the park

On several occasions couples have been witnessed having sex near to the Dell and on the golf course. Moira has also seen a female loitering in the park in the evenings and this gave the appearance of being a prostitute. SNT to be requested for attention.

ACTION: Mick Wainwright to report back

3(ii) Park Development

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

- a. Golf Course Grant
The chocolate with all the logos on had been delivered and was impressive. The gazebo has been purchased, along with a banner affixed to it displaying the logos and web site. The reprinted Fitness Trail Leaflets had also been delivered. A decision was taken by the group that the gazebo would not be loaned out to other groups as it wouldn't be guaranteed to return in an undamaged state.
Lisa said the gateway work was in hand and should be completed shortly.
- b. Playbuilder Funding
Another consultation took place in the park – Ian Parker, Ann Simms, Don & Sandra and Jean & Ron spent four hours one afternoon seeking the opinions of the public on the location of the wooded area near to the car park. Some useful suggestions were put forward. Care to Run leaflets were also handed out to visitors reading the FOSP notice board.

3(iv) Angling Club

- a. It was reported that the bailiff had been alerted to some men dragging the lake for fish with a line which had apparently been left in. The men, of foreign appearance, were wearing light grey uniforms and went off with the fish in the direction of the Shaw Wood industrial estate.

3(vi) Communications

Digital heroes

Community Spaces (the funding body overseeing the Golf Course grant) had emailed Don and suggested he apply for an award entitled Digital Heroes. FOSP was highlighted on their web site as being a good example of using digital technology to overcome social problems. A regional winners award of £5,000 was up for grabs; £10,000 to the national winner.

ACTION: Don to look into the award

- b. Thorne park
A Thorne councillor had been to Sandall Park and was impressed by what he'd seen. He contacted the members of the Thorne Miniature Train group in Thorne Memorial Park and asked them to approach us for advice with a view to setting up their own Friends of Thorne Park group. A meeting is to be arranged with Don and Sandra.

3(vii) Funding/Events

- a. Tombola at Tubys fair
Eva has fixed up for us to have a FOSP stand and tombola at Roger Tuby's fair on the Sunday of the Bank Holiday weekend, Sunday 30th August. Volunteers were requested to help. Ron & Jean volunteered. Eva is collating the tombola items.
- b. Care to Run
Banners, flags and poles, posts had been purchased for use at this and other events. Barrie, Ron's family and Carol's family put their names down as additional marshalls. Jean & Ron will staff the FOSP stand.
Aurora banners were now in place on the park fence as a result of the planning decision not to allow them having been challenged and taken up by the Mayor. Additionally, Mayor Davis gave his express permission for them to be erected.

- c. Race Night
Sponsors were still required for some races. Mairaid agreed to sponsor one, as did Lisa. Sponsor forms were handed out. Friends of Sandall Beat are taking 25 tickets to sell, they are to keep the proceeds from any ticket sales.
Funding
Lottery income this month is £233.60.
- c. Treasurers Report
Neil G presented a current balance sheet. Some capital is still due in from the grant

4. **Any Other Business**

- a. Debbie had suggested designing a Sandall Park calendar. She is researching this idea and collating photos from Derrick.
- b. CVS courses: a bursary application form is to be submitted – Carol is applying for two courses.
- c. Moira pointed out that the fences around the park need replacing where they have been knocked down by vehicles. It was suggested that DMBC should chase up insurance companies to pay for them.

ACTION: Moira to take this up with Community Parks dept.

- d. Music in park: Sandra has approached various people within DMBC with a view to having the system changed whereby FOSP are requested to pay Admin fee, hire of park and a £100 bond for every event organised, though we can send a letter pleading poverty and the fees may be waived. This despite the fact of all the work we carry out in the park and the £75,000 invested in it over the last three years. This is another example of 'one size fits all' policy. Negotiations are continuing.
- e. The amplifier which we purchased some time ago has been discovered not to be suitable for our purpose. Electro Music was contacted and have very generously swapped the equipment for one which is far easier to use and transport. A letter of thanks is to be sent to them. A group decision was made that this equipment would not be loaned out to other groups.

ACTION: Sandra to send a letter of thanks

5. **Date of next meeting:**

16th September 7pm