

**Friends of Sandall Park**  
**Minutes of Special General Meeting<sup>1</sup>**  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010**  
**(Sandalwood Centre)**

**Apologies:** S Coddington, D Ward, R & J Ketley, W Gethin,

**Present:** D & S Crabtree, E Hughes, D Bewell, M Downing, S Stokes, M Hood, N Gethin, C & C Burton, N Marshall, M Wainwright, M Smith, L & L Handley, A Hargreaves, N Kilburn, R Winterton MP

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of previous meeting read and agreed.

**2. Matters arising from previous minutes**

i. Moira Hood has raised the issue of damaged park fences (by vehicles) with Jane Miller and she was going to pursue the matter. No response has been received to her enquiries. Still no resolution.

**ACTION: Moira to continue with this issue**

ii. Rachael Blake has consulted with legal Department. The wording of the current Byelaws does not require dogs to be kept on a lead. The group agreed that a dog control order should be pursued.

**ACTION: Rachael to follow up Dog Control Order**

iii. Rachael Blake had requested information from the DMBC enforcement team with regards to the 7 day rule for tracing offenders but none was forthcoming at this stage. No update at this time.

**ACTION: Rachael to follow up 7 day rule**

iv. CCTV - Rachael still liaising with police as to responsibility of Data Controller. She has not received a reply from the police to date.

**ACTION: Rachael to follow up Data Controller**

v. Rosie Winterton MP visited the Golf Course Project as arranged by Community Spaces and Groundwork UK. She had been impressed by the whole project, in particular the fitness equipment and the efforts of the group.

**3. Business Plan**

**3(i). Crime**

i. Park warden – coverage has been provided on weekends by the SNT. It seemed to have the necessary preventive purpose as no-one committed any offences in their presence. Overall, 12 anglers were advised re the fishing ban. A good result – long may it continue.

ii. The toilets have been blocked again – all 3 facilities needed remedial work.

iii. All the benches on the golf course have been damaged albeit minor graffiti. To be re-sprayed.

**3(ii) Park Development**

**a. Playbuilder Project**

There has been no further news regarding development of the Boathouse area. To be followed up.

**ACTION: Don to chase up Ian Parker as for clarification of the position.**

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

Sandra has emailed Ann Simms to let her know all the fencing is still on site and is being scattered about.

b. Future Projects

i. Dog Fouling

The planned date of 3<sup>rd</sup> May for handing out dog poo kits was not suitable for SNT to assist as they are committed elsewhere. Another date is to be fixed.

ii. Lake Edging

Eva said that there would be further discussions after the elections.

**ACTION: Eva to report back on progress**

iii. Lake Sculptures

Sandra hasn't followed this up yet until things are a bit clearer about the angling side of things.

**ACTION: Sandra to enquire about this possibility**

c. Beech Hedging (café car park)

d. Lisa has emailed to say this is still in hand and will be completed.

e. Rounders Pitch

Lisa reported that this is in hand.

f. Spring Drain

Sandra pointed out that there is still a problem with the drainage from the wooded area above the boat house. Although it is not now flooding the paths as it used to – the area is still very boggy. The group were asked for suggestions as to how we could remedy this. Could we turn it into a water feature?

Neil M suggested getting the drainage people to have a look at it and Moira said she would organise that.

**ACTION: Moira to contact drainage dept.**

**3(iii) Angling Club**

a. Position at the moment

Neil Marshall gave an outline as to the situation with Corner Pin relinquishing their lease and no-one coming forward to take it on. Having taken the decision to have a trial period of 6 months without angling in the park, a group of regular anglers had come forward with a determination to make it work to the benefit of anglers, park visitors and wildlife.

b. Proposed new club

i. Lucan Handley put forward their proposals to form a new club – the Anglers of Sandall Park (ASP). They already had quite a few people interested in joining; they would form a proper constituted group with a set of rules for participants, issue day tickets, maintain the lake and clear it of all fishing debris; they were concerned for the welfare of the fish as well as other wildlife. Lucan assured the group that they intended to help not just with the lake but had interests in the park in general.

ii. Andy Hargreaves then outlined the Business Plan they intended submitting to the council with a view to taking on the lease.

iii. Sandra said she felt confident that this new group would be committed to ensuring angling ran alongside the other activities in the park without conflict, and that the additional volunteers within ASP would prove an asset to the FoSP. She said that although the group had initially agreed with the council that there should be a trial ban, we were flexible enough to be open to other ideas and that this inspired initiative seemed a positive step forward. It was put to the group that we should support this new venture – agreed unanimously.

iv. Don then suggested that perhaps we could help ASP out financially if they needed capital initially for insurance or other purposes. Agreed.

**3(iv) Communications**

The web site has had most visits of all this month.

The notice boards have been updated and continue to be done regularly.

**3(v) Funding/Events**

a. Funding

i. The cotton bags have been purchased and are being distributed.

ii. Some dog poo kits have been purchased, but since we discovered we can get them from the pound shop, we have been buying them at every opportunity to get better value for money.

Members of the group were encouraged to take some to hand out in the park.

iii. Don handed over a cheque for £150 – a donation from YTV.

iv. Sandra handed over £10 – a donation from a well wisher.

v. Lottery income this month is £26.46.

b. Treasurers Report

Was presented and reported to be in a healthy position. A copy was handed to Don, acting secretary

c. Music in the Park 2010

Neil G said that the generator had been mended and was now fit for use.

Don has had the posters printed – funded through Groundwork and Community Spaces and have had them done with the time and date left blank. This enables us to use them for different occasions by just inserting the date. The same funding will pay for printer cartridges for the date printing on the posters.

Ron reported that the sound system was sorted.

d. 5-a-side Football: Sport Relief 18<sup>th</sup> March

Two teams were entered representing FoSP and gave a good account of themselves. Altogether around £800 was raised for Sport Relief.

e. Fake Festival

Tickets are going very well and it's on track to be a sell out.

**4. Any Other Business**

a. Rosie Winterton MP asked if the fishing and dog control order issues had been resolved and it was stated they had. She asked if there was anything else she could assist with and the matter of repairs to fencing was mentioned. She asked for the details to be sent to her.

**ACTION: Sandra and Moira to email details of fencing issues to Rosie Winterton MP**

b. Carol related the problem of the adult male swan bullying last year's cygnets as had happened last year with tragic results. She had been in touch with the Yorkshire Wildlife Park at Branton who have one black swan. They said they would take the cygnets if they could catch them. Otherwise they would most likely end up dead – they were also being bullied by the Canada Geese.

**ACTION: Carol to liaise with Yorkshire Wildlife Park**

c. Neil M said that there were some Doncaster Rovers tickets for community members available if anyone would like one. Several requested tickets.

d. Neil K and Sandra said they had seen rats on the banks of the lake again. Sandra to report to customer services.

**ACTION: Sandra to email customer services @DMBC**

**5. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 19 May 2010