

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 15th June 2016

Present: N Gethin, W Barclay, S Holland, N Marshall, S & D Crabtree, M Hood, Carol Burton, B Senior, M Keegan, M Smith

Apologies: D Bewell, R Ishrat, M Downing, W Gethin, S Stokes, J Kidd, Carolyne Burton, E Hughes, R & J Ketley, Jayne Johnson

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- (i) Neil M outlined the result of a meeting yesterday with Davina and Kerry Sandra & Don. The result being that funding would be found for the £500 needed to provide angling activities for children, and a date needed to be arranged for the initial session to get it off the ground. Neil M and Scott to liaise regarding a date, Scott has several volunteers keen to be involved. If funding cannot be found, agreed that FoSP would donate the £500. Claire Scott is keen to support the initiative. Thanks given to the Angling Club for coming forward to help with this excellent opportunity for children and adult carers who are being isolated through lack of available activities.
- (ii) Neil M said that the cascade planters were no longer available.
- (iii) Neil M had enquired about the locks with the rejoinder that DMBC can't steal their own locks. Sandra said it wasn't a case of that, more that they are removed from important places without thought for security of what they're protecting, and FoSP volunteers have to find replacements to maintain the security.

3(i) Crime

- a. Minor damage to benches with graffiti, sprayed by Don. One family had a BBQ on a picnic bench and were advised accordingly - more than once.
- b. A second hand cream dispenser has been broken in the ladies and won't now be replaced.
- c. Scott said there'd been a drunk in the park who was causing problems with park visitors and then went on to assault Mark and Louise. The police attended and he was arrested.
- d. Also a problem with vehicles in the main car park late at night doing doughnuts. Moira said this will be because the furniture car park is now closed at night by a barrier, which is where the vehicles used to gather until 1am, weekend nights.

ACTION: Neil M to pass to NRT for attention

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

3(ii) Park Development

- a. Maintenance Plan
 - (i) A separate Facebook page has been set up just for volunteers to log on to, to see what jobs need doing and seems to be working well. Scott said he'd seen both Sam and Jayne (new members) walking round the park.
- b. Projects
 - (i) Tesco fund: still awaiting a response from Groundwork about the Document to be signed regarding handing over the funds to DMBC for them to order the equipment.
 - (ii) The funding application for a grant for the Woodland Adventure Play was submitted to WREN, awaiting further information from them. There has been nothing heard about the match funding request from the Mayor's Fund.
 - (iii) The Tree Trail is developing nicely. We've been liaising with David Shore from Cusworth Hall who has been doing a lot of work researching the trees for us. He has discovered that we have over 70 different species in the park. We now have the information to start developing a leaflet and incorporating it into the TiCL App.

3(iii) Angling Club

- a. The lake has been cleared again, there is a problem with people dumping large amounts of bread and chappatis. They're not feeding the ducks, they're just dumping and it will eventually attract rats: the ducks aren't eating it.
ACTION: Don to start a publicity campaign
- b. There are numerous dead geese on the island, with no visible signs of injury. Several have been pulled from the water.
ACTION: Neil M to make enquiries as to best way of dealing

3(iv) Football Club

- a. Electricity to changing room - was to be taken from the nursery but not sure what the position is now with regards to the lease. No further information has become available.
- b. Mike thanked the group for the £480 sponsorship of their shirts for the under 7's, and provided the quote for the strip.
- c. Mike said the Walking Football Club was progressing well with 12 signed up. here will be an exhibition on 25/26th at the tournament for over 50's.
- d. Neil M discussed the loan of nets to Friends of Grove Gardens for a memorial football match.
- e. Mike said training for an additional under 7's team would be starting on Tuesday.

3(v) Communications

- a. An Article in Yours Magazine, as a result of Sandra being interviewed and photographs taken in the park, is due to be published on 21st June. It focuses on Sandra as a volunteer.
- b. GSN - there has been an extra meeting called for Wednesday 22nd June to discuss insurance for voluntary groups. Kylie has been making enquiries about the council covering all groups with one policy.
- c. entley Area Community Partnership: Don did the talk which appeared to be very well received. The BACUP comprises various different voluntary groups.

- d. Edenthorpe Gardening Club are coming to the park on 11th July. They'd wanted Don to do a talk to the group but as with all groups now, he invited them to the park instead. Wendy will assist - it's expected about 35 people will be attending.

3(vi) Funding

- a(i) 100 Club draw took place at the meeting and the winners were E Hughes; D Smith; M Hood.
- (ii) A cheaper local source has been found for the toilet rolls and liquid soap - half the price of our normal suppliers.
- b. Treasurer's Report
- (i) The treasurer's report stated that the balance is still healthy.

3(vii) Events

- a. Music in the Park: There's a new start time of 1.30pm to accommodate the band from Herten who are travelling over that morning. Neil M will be providing 2 staff to organise car parking, to be there for 10am, Don asked for volunteers to be there for 11.30am.
- b. Summerfest: There has been some debate on Facebook as a result of Mapfest in Doncaster and Keepmoat organising events in competition. It is not definite at this time as to whether it will go ahead.
- c. Santa Dash: Sandra and Don had had a very positive meeting with John from the Rotary Club and they are keen to take over the organisation of the Santa Dash. John has arranged to meet with Ready Steady Store to discuss their input. Don and Sandra had already sounded them out and they feel they don't do enough to support us so are keen to continue with the Santa Dash arrangements.

3. Any Other Business

- a. Wendy asked if someone could water the plants (bike baskets and troughs) and clean the toilets while she is away on holiday. Carol will water the plants, and do the toilets once a week.
- b. Wendy asked when the grass would be cut, the park is looking desolate and extremely untidy, and the sensory trail is impassable. Neil M said there'd been issues with staffing and everything was behind schedule though they were getting to grips with it.
ACTION: Sandra to request grass cut for MITP & Football
- c. Don said that we'd reported the toilets blocked via Customer Services and been told to phone and report it to Property Services. We can't do that, we've already been told every request has to go on the DMBC App - which takes an age to complete, especially on a mobile phone.

Meeting concluded 8.08pm.

- 5. Date of next meeting: 7pm Wednesday 20th July
Apologies Barbara