

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 25th May 2016

Present: N Gethin, W Barclay, S Holland, N Marshall, S & D Crabtree, F Woolley, M Hood, Carol Burton, B Senior, M Keegan, Jayne Johnson, Sam Johnston

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

Chair welcomed Jayne and Sam to the meeting and to the group.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved, with the exception that the request for an additional bin for the peninsula had been omitted. This was requested and has been fitted.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- a. Neil M said that the VAT issue had been up and down the hierarchy, challenged by Legal and Audit, but agreed that if certain conditions were met, DMBC would be allowed to purchase equipment for installation in their own parks. The conditions being: paid for from existing budgets; paid back in full; owned by DMBC; gifted to DMBC by voluntary group; and a document signed to that effect.
- b. Barriers into the park have been fixed.
- c. Green Tree staff came, and after painting the wooden sections of the benches were snowed off. Jean, Ron and Wendy were on hand to assist and paint the metal fencing. The staff have volunteered to do some fundraising for us.
- d. The wood chip for the fishing pegs has been delivered, thanks to Neil Marshall for organising and tree/grounds team for delivering. Scott asked if they could have more, it was all being used up quickly.

3(i) Crime Nothing to report. No further complaints about 'Duck Woman', everyone is avoiding her.

3(ii) Park Development

- a. Maintenance Plan
 - (i) Don put out an appeal on Facebook for new volunteers for the group. 6 responded with a definite interest and a meeting was set up, though only 2 turned up. Another said she'd got delayed but was still interested. Two of those - Sam and Jayne - attended tonight's meeting. A separate Facebook page is going to be set up just for volunteers to log on to, to see what jobs need doing.
 - (ii) Wendy and Alex have put the planters on the fence and planted them up, they look marvellous. Thanks to Neil M for acquiring these. There are some spare in the container.
 - (iii) Neil M said there were some cascade planters available if we wanted them. Wendy said she would please.

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

- (iv) Don intends to remark out the fitness trail markers.
- b. Projects
- (i) Tesco fund is just waiting for payment to go in, VAT issue to be finalised and tendering process to be gone through. Then the equipment can be ordered and installed.
- (ii) The funding application for a grant for the Woodland Adventure Play has been submitted by Paul Bareham in collaboration with Sandra. There may be quite a lot of work yet to do on this. A match funding request has been submitted to the Mayor's Fund with FoSP making up the shortfall.
- (iii) Don is working on doing a mobile phone App for the park called TiCL, highlighting the history of the park. This will be a forerunner for our Tree Trail.
- (iv) The DGSN are submitting an application, put forward by Don as a suggestion - for Superbins for all the groups within the DGSN. Neil M said that their needs to be some re-organisation of bins, bigger ones are needed in some places.

3(iii) Angling Club

- a. Floating flower islands have been planted and in the lake. The next one to go in will have 120 plants on it
- b. The lake has been cleared of line caught in trees.
- c. There are a few tree stakes floating in the lake - believed to be from the small saplings on the grass circle.
- d. The small pond will need de-silting at some point.
- e. The angling club have been nominated for Doncaster in Bloom.
- f. The lake had been closed to fishing due to the fish spawning, but this has now ceased and angling is allowed again.
- g. Neil M said there was funding available and would look into it.

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.
- b. Mike thanked the group for the £480 sponsorship of their shirts for the under 7's, and provided the quote for the strip. Dave Garbutt also sent his thanks.
- c. Mike said the suggestion for a Walking Football Club was progressing and they are trying to get sufficient numbers interested. Neil M said there is funding available to support it. Mike said he'd been in contact with Iain Service regarding this
- d. The football pitches are still marked in the wrong place.
- e. There will be another tournament on the 25/26th June which is the same weekend as the Music in the Park. Don said it won't be a problem - it worked well together last year.
- f. The Under 7's have some good results - they have won the Cup and won the League. Don asked for some photos and details to put on the web site and Facebook.

3(v) Communications

- a(i). Bentley Area Community Partnership via Tony Socket have requested a talk by Don. Although we don't normally do this now, instead inviting groups to the park, Don has agreed to do this one.

- (ii) We have been issued with a Certificate of Excellence by Trip Advisor - no mean feat when it has taken 4 years to get continually good write-ups. We can now display the logo on all our social media..

3(vi) Funding

- a. 100 Club draw took place at the meeting and the winners were M C Darrand, N Gethin; D Gethin.
- b. Treasurer's Report
 - (i) The treasurer's report stated that the balance is still healthy.
 - (ii) The lottery licence agreement was signed by two Trustees.

3(vii) Events

- a. Fake Festival was a success and Jez will be making a donation to the group.
- b. Music in the Park: Neil M will be providing 2 staff to organise car parking. Carol and Carolyne will sell raffle tickets.
- c. Everything seems to be going well for the Summerfest. Neil T asked if we had any volunteers that could sell programmes and the group would receive a portion of the sales. Wendy, Jayne and Barbara (to be confirmed) said they could.
- d(i). Santa Dash: Costa Coffee has been approached as a possible sponsor.
- (ii). Sandra and Don informed the group that they would no longer be organising the Santa Dash - it takes too much out of their year. Barbara does the Admin but there's a lot more to it (an information sheet containing all that it entails was passed to the group). They intend however to meet with St. Leger Rotary and ascertain if they want to take over the running. Neil M said that if they didn't, he believed he knew of someone to take it on.

3. Any Other Business

- a. Wendy asked if there was any update re the cafe. Don said that latest information was the contract was supposed to have been signed but keeps getting sent back for points that have already been agreed, thereby delaying things.
- b. Wendy asked if the group realised there were Woodpeckers in the park.
- c. She also said there had been a lock missing off the central gents toilet, so Don took the one from the tap, but we are still needing a lock for the tap. Don explained to Neil M that this was a recurring problem. The locks either get taken away, or replaced with a dodgy one. It's not FoSP volunteers removing them.
ACTION: Neil M to look into it.
- d. Neil M said he'd like to personally thank Ron for giving advice to a group at Hexthorope, which has resulted in them organising their own concert. They couldn't have done it without Ron's input.
- e. Neil M also sent apologies on behalf of Jane Mills who hasn't sorted out yet for children to attend for angling.
- f. Don said that Iain Service was providing funding for a Boot Camp to be set up in the park doing fitness training.

Meeting concluded 8.25pm.

- 5. **Date of next meeting:** 7pm Wednesday 15th June
Apologies Ron & Jean