

**Friends of Sandall Park**  
**Minutes of Special General Meeting<sup>1</sup>**  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**Sandalwood Communal Hall**

**Present:** S & D Crabtree, R & J Ketley, C Pugh, E Hughes, M Smith, K Ismay-Johnston, N Marshall, S Holland, F Woolley

**Apologies:** D Bewell, M Downing, S Stokes, C & C Burton, N Gethin, L Jones, W Barclay, B Senior

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

**2. Matters arising from previous minutes**

- (i) Banking on Playbuilder – no update has been received to Eva’s request.
- (ii) Car park lining was completed and totally enhances the park – thanks to Andy Rutherford and the DMBC team.
- (iii) The Bridge Engineer came out and met with Don – the estimate is around £500,000 for a bridge over the lake. Obviously out of our price range but not to be written off totally. Possible future project.
- (iv) The Gabions were repaired by Col & Don and they did an extremely good job, so much so they look as good as new. Both were thanked for their efforts.
- (v) Radio Sheffield Clueless finished one of their events in the park. Don was interviewed by Dan Green and gave an update of the park.

**3(i) Crime**

- a. Scott reported that there have been some disturbing incidents in the park. Last Friday night there were men in the park shooting ducks and geese, sending dogs in to the lake to get them. This was reported to him by a new member of the night angling club. The following night, Saturday, there were men in the park with a shotgun and rifles with lasers. The gate had been shut to the café car park and the bolt shot across, but they’d opened the gate to drive in. Whilst they were round the lake Scott had gone up to the car park and taken a photograph of the car’s registration number. This incident was reported to the police on 101 and then again on 999 but no-one attended or contacted them back to see what the situation was. He says he was told by the controller to go and have a word with them. An email read out by Eva refuted this and said the police were too busy with other incidents to attend. Scott said the anglers were afraid to do night fishing with this threat not being responded to. Much discussion ensued but all agreed it was unacceptable and Scott ought to make a complaint to the police. There was no confidence that the police would attend future incidents of such a serious nature.

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

### 3(ii) Park Development

#### a. Maintenance Plan

- (i) Four Volunteers came from Dept for Work & Pensions: 22 benches were painted during a very worthwhile day – they worked really hard.
- (ii) The trees at the disabled peg still need moving.

#### b. Projects

- (i) Tesco Fund – The Inclusive Swing for the Barnby Dun Road site was put out to tender and was £986 more than budgeted for. A Crowdfunding page has been set up by Kristen and already has £60 on it. The link to the Crowdfunding page is on the Facebook page and website.
- (ii) The Woodland Adventure Play: Ben sent the tender results to WREN and it came back today that they have agreed the project can go ahead.
- (iii) Green Flag Award: Judges are due to come out on 6<sup>th</sup> June and everything is in place.

### 3(iii) Angling Club

- a. The fountain has been installed. Thanks to Pauline Clubley (DMBC) for sorting it all; the elected members for making the funds available and the angling club for installing it. It's a prominent and aesthetically pleasing addition to the lake.
- b. Dawn Stephens is looking into the training in 'spiling'
- c. The Siltex can now go in now the fountain is up and running, Col has already had a quote and will raise an order. It was agreed that FoSP would pay for it. To be included in the Management Plan.
- d. Repairs to gabions were carried by Col & Don, both were thanked for their efforts, they'd made a really good job of the repairs.

### 3(iv) Football Club

- a. Scott said he would not assisting the football club anymore, but would be concentrating on the angling club. He had asked another member of the football club to attend the FoSP meeting to represent the club.
- b. It was felt that as FoSP were contributing towards the club they ought to be represented on the group.  
**ACTION: Sandra to invite Football Club to send a representative to meetings.**
- c. Dean Wiffen's dept will pay half the cost towards Referees courses.

### 3(v) Communications

- a. Twitter currently has 800 followers and is a different audience to FB. We have followers nationwide. It is a good vehicle for communication.
- b. The website has been thinned out to make it more efficient – the reports only go back two years now, though all the galleries are still there. The security has been updated to prevent more malware attacks.
- c. The noticeboards are to be updated again.

### 3(vi) Funding

- a. 100 Club draw took place at the meeting and the winners were: S Stokes; J Oxley; D Edwards
- b. Treasurer's Report
  - (i) The Trustees have been receiving detailed monthly expenditure reports by email since April.
  - (ii) The balance is healthy with the Tesco fund for the Inclusive Swing yet to come out.
  - (iii) Internet Banking has now been set up.

- (iv) Debit cards have been issued to Sandra, Don & Kristen for FoSP purchases. Sandra reported that it had already made a difference and it's so much easier to purchase FoSP items without paying out of her own money and having to keep track to claim it back.

### **3(vii) Events**

- a. Party in the Park & Eid in the park: arrangements are in hand for both.
- b. Meet & Greet day not yet decided.
- c. Submission has gone in for Doncaster in Bloom.

### **4. Any Other Business**

- a. Ron asked if the toilet rota could be swapped as they'd be away for their turn. Sandra to sort.
- b. Don said we'd been approached by a company wanting to do a festival in the park: Cider & Sausage, based on a similar theme to Fake Festival. They have approached Anita and have been invited to the park to take a look around.
- c. Eva read out an email that Neil Gethin had sent to her saying that having read the minutes of the last meeting he would have advised against issuing Debit cards to be issued to individuals. Sandra said that had Neil been at the meeting, and the one prior to that, he could have made his feelings known, but the fact was that he wasn't, and all members and Trustees had agreed to the decision. Sandra said It's a progressive move taking the group forward and making it easier for her to purchase items – evidenced with the production of receipts - instead of paying out of her own money and then having to claim it back. It has already proved to be useful and more efficient. The electronic audit trail is clear and transparent.  
Kristen said that in her experience as a Local Authority School Business Manager in three authorities and advisor to Trust boards that debit and credit cards are commonly used for expenditure in relation to public funds, so if it's acceptable for public funds then it stands to reason that it's acceptable for a well managed charity. The type of bank account we have (Treasurers Account) allows it and the correct resolutions required by the bank were used in the approved minutes.  
Matter dismissed.
- d. Don reported that the FakeFestival had been a huge success and was the busiest he'd seen it. A donation would be made by Jez.

Meeting concluded 7.52pm.

- 5. **Date of next meeting** 7pm Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June (a week earlier than normal)  
Apologies from C & C Burton; R & J Ketley; E Hughes; N Marshall