

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 15th March 2017
Sandalwood Communal Hall

Present: S & D Crabtree, R & J Ketley, L Jones, Carol Burton, C Pugh, W Barclay, S Holland, E Hughes, B Senior, N Marshall J Kidd (part of meeting) M Smith

Apologies: D Bewell, M Downing, S Stokes, Carolyne Burton, K Ismay-Johnston

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- (i) Rat infestation: new bait bins have installed. Scott said there were rats under the football changing rooms.
- (ii) Quad bikes remain a problem. There has been an operation to target them but the result is not known.
- (iii) Cycleway: the park fence is being restored at this time and should be completed in the next couple of days.
- (iv) The missing rubbish bin was removed by the council as it was loose, and will be returned at some point.

3(i) Crime

- a. During the School Holidays a full toilet roll was removed from the holder and stuffed down the toilet in the ladies, and the sink filled with muddy toilet roll. Not a major issue but disruptive.
- b. Two Pedal Ready bikes were stolen, we presume while football/parkrun/cycle training was taking place.
- c. An attempt burglary was made on the café – the offenders were disturbed by the night anglers and they made off without having gained entry. This wasn't reported to the police by the anglers due to lack of confidence in them attending, they haven't attended anything reported so far, including an elderly man in his pyjamas.
- d. A set of goal posts and nets were stolen by breaking the lock and removing them from behind the football cabin. A witness said they saw two youths carrying them from the park to Clay Lane. This had been reported to the police but they wouldn't send anyone out as he wasn't the complainant. Kim has been liaising with the police regarding this.

3(ii) Park Development

a. Maintenance Plan

- (i) Don said that there's much tidying up to do to make the park attractive to any Green Flag judges. There are a lot of dead trees – Sandra has already requested these be dealt with but another request may need to be made.

ACTION: Sandra to request attention for trees.

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

- b. Projects
- (i) Tesco Fund – FoSP have been announced in Tesco as the winners of the £5000 but we haven't been told officially yet. This is for the Inclusive Swing for the Barnby Dun Road site.
- (ii) At this point Jane Kidd asked if she could mention the training available for Disability Confidence Training. There would normally be a cost but as she was a trainer, she could provide it for free. Agreed that if she wanted to tag it on to the beginning or end of a meeting some of the group would undertake the training, if it was free. She would contact us after the May elections. Jane then left the meeting.
- (iii) The Woodland Adventure Play: After even more delays, the project was submitted for planning permission, the signs have been on the fence and the date for objections was last week.
- (iv) Proposed Project: (bridge over the lake) whilst it is not being progressed with any haste, enquiries have been made of the Bridge Engineer at DMBC. He will visit the site to see if there is any merit in the proposal.

3(iii) Angling Club

- a. Fountain: Awaiting the funding to be released.
ACTION: Eva to look into the cause of the delay.
- b. Neil M has been in touch with a group who can provide training in 'spiling' which is planting willow to form a barrier for the lake edge to deter it from crumbling. Further enquiries yet to be made as to how the training will take place, and where to grow the willow saplings for the job The Biodiversity team have been consulted and are in agreement with the project. They have already been planting reeds along the lake edge.
- c. The Siltex aspect is awaiting funding but can't be undertaken until the fountain is in.
- d. Further discussion took place re repairs to gabions. Sandra asked them to do the work and FoSP would pay for any materials.

3(iv) Football Club

- a. Scott reported that Mike Keegan had moved to Wheatley Wanderers and would not be returning. There had been disagreements with parents and another manager at the club which could not be resolved.
- b. Scott has been helping out by refereeing for them, but they need to send two people on a referee's course. Group agreed to fund the cost of the two courses at £300 total.
- c. The teams need a new secretary. Neil M said he'd make enquiries with Dean Wiffen's team to see if they could help with anything.

3(v) Communications

- a. Website: Don reported that our web site had almost been brought down by a rogue Brute Force attack, which simply put means it checks our website so many times it uses up all its capacity. It had 10,000 visits within 3 hours instead of a month. Agreed that if we need to spend more money on upgrading the system Don could go ahead.
- b. Trip Advisor – we've had a negative comment this week by a visitor who called the park a dump. All others have been really positive.
- c. B & Q contacted us to collect more bird seed. To be collected this week.

3(vi) Funding

- a. 100 Club draw took place at the meeting and the winners were 82 M Frost, 71 - A Gethin-Smith, 64 – A Barclay.
- b. Treasurer's Report
Nothing to report at this time of changeover. (Treasurer unavoidably delayed at work).

3(vii) Events

- a. Easter Activities: Easter Bonnet competition. Sandra suggested that we could have a Bonnet Competition, to be judged after the Egg Hunt conclusion. Several volunteers from the Young Muslimhas have come forward to help with the event. Agreed.
- b. Great British Spring Clean: 3 – 5th March. DWP came on the Friday, and Costa Coffee on the Sunday. Both teams were drenched with the rain but lots of rubbish was collected.
- c. Disabled Access Day(s) 10 – 12th March. Nothing specifically was done for this, just advertising the fact that we have the Sensory Trail and other facilities that people could access.
- d. Party in the Park: Eid in the park: arrangements are in hand for both.
- e. Les was asked if he had any particular day in mind for a Meet and Greet, he said not, could we just do a short notice thing?
- f. Wendy and Scott agreed to do Doncaster in Bloom as a joint enterprise.

4. Any Other Business

- a. Neil said that the PSPO (Public Space Protection Orders) were progressing and in relation to dogs, we'd need to decide where we wanted signs in the park. There will be 3 sorts: 1. No Dogs Allowed (play areas); 2. Dogs on leads at all times and 3. Dogs on leads when an asked by an officer to do so.
Consultation to take place.
- b. Eva said she'd reported the defective banking on the Playbuilder slide but it hasn't been repaired yet, she'll chase it up.
ACTION: Eva to chase up the repairs
- c. Eva asked if there were any plans to do another quiz, Don said that there weren't. The last one was ruined by unsportsmanlike conduct and it spoilt what had been a great night and which took a lot of organising.
- d. Scott said that they now had a night time bailiff who would be keeping an eye on things..
- e.. Carol apologised for not being able to attend the litter picks.
- f. Scott suggested signs about not feeding the ducks should be put on the concrete posts in the lake
- g. Carol asked if there was any more news of the café progressing? Don said that it was now with planners drawing up the plans.
- h. Don reported that another memorial bench has been requested and the people have been referred to DMBC to go through their channels.
- i. Car park lining has been requested to properly re-mark the car park spaces.

5. Date of next meeting 7pm Wednesday 19th April

Meeting concluded 8.29pm