

Friends of Sandall Park
Minutes of Special General Meeting¹
Wednesday 20th September 2017
Sandalwood Communal Hall

Present: R & J Ketley, S & D Crabtree, C Pugh, B Senior, K Ismay-Johnston, W Barclay, M Smith, E Hughes, F Woolley

Apologies: S Stokes, Carolyne Burton, S Holland, L Jones, N Marshall,

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- (i) Banking on Playbuilder – the work has been completed but only half way down the bank. Neil has been unable to get to the bottom of this – suggest matter dismissed.
- (ii) Fallen Trees: The tree has been removed from the lake. The willow on the picnic area that needed trimming actually collapsed and had to be taken down. The other willow has been trimmed Col reported.
- (iii) Welcome to Yorkshire Membership – Sandra met with Sarina the Rep from WTY at the Scarecrow Festival and Don gave her a tour of the park. We couldn't get free membership but were offered a reduced rate of £180. Sandra was prepared to pay this personally but the group agreed unanimously that it was for the good of the park and the group and the FoSP should pay the membership. To be reviewed after a year. The Santa Dash has already been entered on to our Events page.
- (iv) The new Santa Dash website should be up and running by the end of the month.
- (v) The Scarecrow Festival was a hit and lots of families came to look as well as those who entered the competition. Lots of positive comments about it giving them something to do with the family during the holiday and keeping them occupied.
- (vi) Locking the café car park gate at night: Don has spoken to Drew and as long as it's open for Joy arriving at 5am they are happy for it to be locked.

3(i) Crime

- a. More problems with off road scrambling bikes. One rode through the Scarecrow Festival at speed. A name was given to the police, he was apparently visited at his address on the Clay Lane estate but no offences disclosed. A further occurrence which happened on Thorne Road (not in the park) was witnessed and photographed – the youth on the bike threatening a driver with a knife, and with a young child trying to scramble back on to the bike as they drove off, was reported to the police. A name was provided by the witness and was also from Clay Lane estate.
- b. Three mornings Wendy has found drugs paraphernalia in the gents cubicle: burnt coke cans hidden behind the toilet bowl. Reported to the council.

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) The willow was trimmed, and one felled that was unsafe.
- b. Management Plan

The condition of the lake is ongoing. Michaela is dealing with it, and is to price up signs to deter people from feeding the ducks. Col said it didn't seem to be as bad.

 - (i) The hedge to the main car park has been trimmed back down to a good height.
 - (ii) The footpaths continue to be swept on a regular basis.
 - (iii) The footpaths with holes in near the café have been repaired.
- c. Projects
 - (i) The Woodland Adventure Play: Due to be installed end of September but the supplier has reported delays in getting the product delivered. Don has marked out on the grass where it is to go to negate any ambiguity.
 - (ii) Sandra is still liaising with Ben and Michaela for the planting of Wildflower Meadows. Michaela phoned tonight and confirmed they wanted to progress it. A funding stream has been found but time is running out for a submission.

3(iii) Angling Club

- a. Col said he thought the water quality had improved.
- b. The first part of the new bog garden has been completed. £195 has been spent on posts and netting so far – receipts to Kristen for payment. Plants have been donated, but some may need to be purchased.
- c. Dawn at DMBC has done a funding bid but needs copies of accounts. Col said he was having problems getting them at the moment: Kristen to forward FoSP accounts.

3(iv) Football Club

No report.

3(v) Communications

- a. DGSN meeting is this Wednesday: Don can't attend as he has appointments.

3(vi) Funding

- a. 100 Club draw took place at the meeting and the winners were: S Crabtree; S Crabtree; M Oxley. There are 7 spare numbers.
- b. Treasurer's Report

The accounts are looking healthy though there are still amounts to pay out for the nest swing and Woodland Adventure Play.
- c. There has been a donation from Brian, Bouncy Castles of £862.
- d. A donation received from Roger Tuby of £100, plus a huge teddy for a fundraiser.

3(vii) Events

- a. Santa Dash – 10th December. Plans progressing.
- b. November & December meetings: as usual, there will be no meeting in November, this will take place on December 6th. The Christmas meeting it was agreed should be the normal format and will be on 13th December.

4. Any Other Business

- a. Sandra has approached Doncaster Brewery about having a beer named after the park. Mairaid is making enquiries about it on our behalf.
- b. Wendy thanked Mairaid for all the donations of plants.
- c. Ron commented on the mess left by the circus. Sandra confirmed there had been lots of complaints but Anita was aware of it, was present when they left and they will be charged for the repairs.
- d. Wendy said the Unusual Container was now open for voting in the Civic Office. She Alex, Scott and another would be attending the Doncaster in Bloom Presentation Evening on 25th October. Col to provide some photographs to update the notice board with the angling work.
- e. Questions were asked about the café project – it's still at the pre-planning stage due to new traffic surveys being required.
- f. Eva said it was the 4th anniversary for parkrun this weekend and people were turning into a celebration.
- g. Eva discussed 'dog off lead' areas that she'd seen in America. It was felt by the group that there was plenty of space in the park for dogs to be off leads, except around the lake area. Hence the PSPO's.
- h. Eva made mention of some charity events taking place in the Wheatley area.
- i. Don said he wouldn't be doing a quiz night though he had considered it. He needed to recover from his stroke.

Meeting concluded 8.15pm.

5. **Date of next meeting** 7pm Wednesday 18th October