



The Friends of Sandall Park
Annual Report
2018



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Annual Report January 2018 – December 2018



Content:

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Introduction..... | 3 |
| 2. Crime and Anti Social Behaviour in the Park..... | 4 |
| 3. Events..... | 5 |
| 4. Projects/Work Undertaken..... | 7 |
| 5. Funds..... | 9 |
| 6. Grants applied for – unsuccessful..... | 9 |
| 7. Grants/donations received..... | 9 |
| 8. Publicity/Communications/Networking | 10 |
| 9. Press releases | 11 |
| 10. Meetings..... | 11 |
| 11. Angling Club (Sandall Park Angling Club)..... | 12 |
| 12. Football Club | 13 |
| 13. Park Future..... | 13 |
| 14. The Charity's Policy on Reserves..... | 13 |
| 15. In Conclusion: A statement from the Chairman | 14 |
| 16. Current FoSP Committee Members:..... | 15 |

The Friends of Sandall Park
Trustees' Annual Report

January 2018– December 2018

1. Introduction

2018 has been an exceptional year for the park and the group. New members this year included a young boy who has breathed fresh air into the team and brought us many new ideas, developmental opportunities and positive media exposure. It has also helped in his development and confidence.

Sustainability is key to the success of any group, and new members provide this. The success of the park and the group brings with it new interest and new volunteers and supporters.

All our plans now are governed by what goes into the Management Plan, a collaboration of work between ourselves and DMBC. Working together, this plan will develop the park in accordance with the council's new vision on taking parks and green spaces forward.

The Friends of Sandall Park team¹ do a tremendous job working all year round in the park, and volunteering hours this year has more than trebled with our new volunteers and the work of the angling club.

This includes:

- Writing reports, minutes of meetings and letters
- Litter picks
- Gardening/planting
- Maintenance tasks
- Maintaining and cleaning the toilet facilities – this has been completed daily and the toilets have remained spotless throughout the year
- Clearance, planting and maintenance of the lake by the Angling Club
- Organising events (including preparation and clearing away afterwards)
- General volunteering in the park
- Liaising with other groups and organisations
- Organising tours of the park for other groups and organisations
- Dealing with ASB, crime, offenders and reparation of damage
- Arranging 'Volunteering Days' for other groups: providing equipment and materials for, and supervising the same
- Attending the Doncaster Greenspace Network Forums
- Dealing with email/telephone/Facebook/website enquiries
- Keeping Facebook pages (FoSP; FoSP Volunteering Group and Santa Dash); websites (FoSP and Santa Dash) and Twitter updated
- Treasurers book-keeping
- Printing articles to keep the notice boards up to date and updating all three noticeboards in the park.
- Designing Christmas cards and calendars and distributing them to our supporters; sponsors; business partners
- Working towards applying for a Green Flag Award.

¹ 'Friends of Sandall Park 'Team' includes the DMBC Safer Communities Team (SCT) members who work with the group and the Sandall Park Angling Club.

- Putting together funding bids
- Strategic Planning for the park
- Facilitating and meeting potential park users to organise events
- Attending seminars/conferences for related issues (health; green space; exercise)
- Attending meetings re the future development of the park
- Creation of and meetings regarding Junior Rangers Club; design and purchase of supporting material and purchase of kit for the Club members

The results are clear to see, the park has a pleasant atmosphere, and the number of visitors it receives - calculated now at 400,000 per annum is testament to its popularity and appeal.

The favourable comments received by email and comments on Facebook and Trip Advisor are evidence that the changes the park has gone through and the image it now has have improved vastly. The park was again awarded a Certificate of Excellence 2018 by Trip Advisor and retained its Green Flag status for the second year running.

2. Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in the Park

a. Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

In the greater scheme of things Sandall Park suffers relatively minor crime and ASB in comparison to other areas, but it is always acted upon. Our volunteers react immediately to put incidences of damage right and where necessary inform DMBC who complete repairs that the volunteers cannot undertake. All incidents and crimes are reported to the police and the council.

The presence of our volunteers in Hi-Viz jackets on an almost daily basis goes a long way to preventing any offending in the park we believe.

This is the recorded crime and anti-social behaviour for this year:

1. Theft of substantial plants from the boat garden
2. Regular thefts of plants from the Quiet Corner – thwarted by our volunteers who spotted someone in a motorised buggy about to commit the crime and challenged him. None were stolen thereafter
3. Arson attack on the slide in the play area: thwarted by a passing local Councillor
4. Minor damage to WAP1 – attempts to burn the ropes. Repaired by DMBC
5. Minor damage whilst WAP2 was under construction – but the offenders apparently got it out of their system prior to completion – it wasn't touched once the fencing was removed.
6. Young tree snapped off on the old golf course
7. Dog fouling remains a problem throughout the park, though the Dog Poo Bag Dispenser is well used. Most dog owners are responsible, but it only needs one or two to create the problem.
8. CCTV was installed near to the toilets
9. A car was damaged by another car rolling into it – our volunteers witnessed it and ensured the damaged vehicle's owner was made aware of the offending vehicles owner details. The matter was resolved – thanks to the volunteer!
10. The biggest offenders the park suffers from are the quad and motor bikes that go in periodically. Several offenders were visited earlier in the year and bikes seized - all as a result of the public coming together to provide information and have the issue dealt with for the good of the park and everyone who visits it. The situation this year was helped tremendously by

a campaign by the Doncaster Free Press and it was subject of a PACT (Police and Communities Together) initiative.

A liaison was also struck up with Prosec UK who pay passing attention to the park on route to their assignments.

b. Litter

1. Regular litter picks around the park have been performed by
 - a. Members of the group
 - b. Members of the Angling Club
 - c. Carers and their charges
 - d. Cub scouts
 - e. Visitors to the park – of their own volition
 - f. Reparation offenders – Remidi
 - g. Junior Rangers – independent of the group and with the group
 - h. Costa Coffee staff from local branches did morning litter picks and litter picked after our events
 - i. McDonald's staff did a litter pick during and after the Hook a Duck/Egg Hunt.
 - j. Great British Spring Clean campaign was signed up to with a few members of the public joining in.
2. The Superbin which contains all the equipment volunteers need to litter pick in the park, contained in a coded accessible cupboard) has proved to be invaluable for our volunteers.
3. Remedi contacted us with a view to taking juvenile offenders to the park to litter pick. They were shown the Superbin and how to access it whenever they wanted to do any work.
4. Several Carers have been shown how to access the Superbin and bring their charges to the park on a regular basis to litter pick.
5. As a result of all the above – litter is at a minimum in the park.
6. The main areas for regular litter are the car parks where night time visitors drop their litter from their cars. Additionally - on occasion - large amounts of the small gas bottles that are used as laughing gas are discarded in the car park and adjacent grassed area.
7. The Council path sweeper has been in the park regularly and swept the paths clear of duck droppings.

3. Events ²

1. Princess & Superheroes raising funds for FoSP*
2. Eid in the park*
3. Princess & Pirates raising funds for FoSP*
4. Party in the park raising funds for Dementia Awareness*
5. Family Fun Day raising funds for Yorkshire Lowland Rescue*
6. Easter Activities
 - Our 'World Championship' Hook a Duck competition took place and needed no advertising – other than our banners on the fences.
 - The Easter Egg Hunt which was sponsored by Ready Steady Store, and which was free to enter was again a huge success. Around 1000 eggs and dozens of sweets/lollies were handed out.
 - The tombola helped boost funds.

² All conducted with the invaluable assistance of the Safer Communities Neighbourhood Team, and the Grounds Team.

*Not organised by FoSP

- McDonalds donated prizes, helped to judge the bonnet competition, gave out vouchers and did a litter pick during the event.
 - The Neighbourhood Team as always did a marvellous job in organising the Hook a Duck competition itself and the staff from Ready Steady Store helped with the provision of their gazebo and funding of the Egg Hunt.
 - It is an extremely popular and now recognised holiday event, especially with Mickey and Minnie Mouse attending, they were accosted by hordes of children as soon as they entered the park.
7. The 10th annual Fake Festival took place in May and was another huge triumph for the park and for Doncaster. It sold itself without much need for advertising and around 1200 people attended. Tickets are now only sold on-line – there is no need for local outlets such is the popularity.
8. The Glo Festival* organised by a company from Leicestershire, started out as a family fun day with crafts etc but turned out to be mainly a music festival with two stages. It appeared well received by those that attended and was well organised.
9. RSPCA Dog Show* was held for the first time (they've outgrown their own premises for this event) and was well attended. The RSPCA organisers are repeating the event in 2019 in the park.
10. It was decided that the Scarecrow Festival that we'd created last year was going to be too much work for our organisers, so we said it was decided not to go ahead with it. Brian of Bouncy Castles and Julie who runs the dog shows stepped in and incorporated it into one of their events. They are doing the same in 2019 so it can remain on the calendar.
11. Doncaster in Bloom: The swan planter was voted best Unusual Container and we were awarded Gold Certificates for Sustainable Garden and Community Category.
12. The Santa Dash:
- It was decided this year that the Santa Dash was becoming too much of a strain on one of the key organisers and it was agreed to offer it to Town Fields (Kidney Charity) Group, to work alongside Rotary Club in delivering the event.
 - A meeting was set up and the initial idea seemed to be well received, but the arrangement wasn't to our satisfaction and the offer was withdrawn. The Doncaster Santa will remain in Sandall Park.
 - The St Leger Rotary of Doncaster again took responsibility for ordering and paying for the Santa suits, antlers and medals, arranged the entertainment, sound system and stage, and organised the Dog and Buggy competitions of the day. They have taken over a lot of the responsibilities, and they were thanked for all their hard work.
 - This year it was again fully funded Ethos Financial; Weldricks Chemist; Hill House School; Barnsdale Estate Agents; Hesley Group; Pacy & Wheatley; Chapmans Physios; Rotary Club St Leger; Friends of Sandall Park, and of course Ready Steady Store and Indizine Web Design who donated in kind with goods and services. This meant we were again able to give the participating charities all the entry fees from their supporters.
 - Two additional charities were selected this year: Lex's Legacy and Team Houdini Lost and Found Pets.
 - The event was entertained by DICE Enterprises; 'Acting Up'; and Phoenix Theatre Company performing from their show Oliver – arranged by Rotary Club.
 - FoSP volunteers organised the logistics of the day and marshalled the event, assisted by the Neighbourhood Team.
 - Our appreciation was extended to the staff of Ready Steady Store for taking entries and distributing Santa Suits since September, lending their gazebo

- and providing water for the runners. They do an amazing amount of work for us and the event.
- Our thanks to The Neighbourhood Team as always, for providing equipment and help, and to all the marshals who did a valuable PR job as well as helping the event run smoothly.
13. The Sandall Park Rangers JFC were disbanded, and another two football teams stepped into the breach. There is no longer any contact with the football groups – they ceased attending FoSP meetings and liaising with us.
 14. The parkrun*:
 - Now in its 6th year is still going strong and encouraging more and more people to take up exercise many of whom had not previously undertaken exercise. Lots of people show progress in their fitness and health.
 - The parkrun director organised a funding application through Leeds Building Society to develop a Quiet Garden (originally to be named a memorial garden but amended to reflect policy) and this is being developed to promote mental health awareness.
 - Parkrun organisers have formed a liaison with Kingthorne Surgery Group Practice to encourage people into exercise. This has been developed even further with KT Practice becoming involved with and donating to a project in the park to raise awareness of Mental Health, as above.
 15. Green Flag Award: The Award Ceremony was attended by our Junior Ranger and a FoSP volunteer. The Flag raising ceremony was attended by the Grounds Team with our Junior Ranger assisting in raising the flag.
 16. The annual Lions Fun Day* is an excellent event for the park and the participants, who come from within and well beyond the borough. Numerous Lions Groups are involved in the organisation.
 17. National Breastfeeding Week ‘Latch on’* event was again successful and is growing year on year.

*These events are run by other organisations – not FoSP

4. Projects/Work Undertaken

1. Planting:
 - Bulb planting, tending the rockery and planting new plants, tending Marshall’s Garden; the Jubilee Garden and the new planters around the park continues an annual basis by FOSP volunteers on numerous days. Numerous shrubs which have been donated by volunteers and their neighbours have also been planted. The main flower beds were planted by DMBC.
 - Doncaster in Bloom: Gold Award for Community Group; Silver Gilt for Wildlife Sustainable Garden and Winner of the Unusual container competition.
 - The ‘Duck garden’ has been re-invented as a Quiet Garden, for those people who want to sit and reflect, or just have a quiet moment. It is being developed (initially named a memorial garden but now Quiet Garden) through funding provided by Leeds Building Society through parkrun. Taking this further, a project to promote Mental Health and Awareness is being linked in to the Quiet Garden: A notice board will be purchased and will concentrate on Mental Health Issues, and it is proposed to hold health classes such as Tai Chi and set up Information Hubs during the summer months. Funding has been received from Kingthorne Group Practice to supplement this.
 - To celebrate Le Tour de Yorkshire cycle event, a decorated cycle bedecked with flowers and representing the Tour, was again mounted on the fence and remained there all summer.

2. 'Pongy corner' (The end of the lake where all the rubbish and silt gathers,) requires continual work to keep it clear of debris. The problem of children removing boulders from the gabions was solved by refilling the cages, wiring them up and in-filling with soil to allow the grass to grow over the top. Siltex was purchased and put in by the angling club which appeared to resolve the issue for a short while.
3. Liaison set up with Prosec Uk regarding patrols of the park by their passing vehicles. Several meetings took place, and after much discussion with DMBC, we were allowed to put signs on the fence stating that Prosec were helping us keep an eye on the park.
4. Volunteer Days (general maintenance undertaken).
5. Learning Outside the Classroom certification was looked at, having been questioned by a teacher. It was researched and, apart from the cost involved, decided it wasn't suitable for the park at this time.
6. A liaison was struck up with BlokHeds to install some children's play stools within the park. This hit snags with the provision of suitable wood for the equipment, and a suitable funder couldn't be found. Held in abeyance for the time being. BlokHeds did a lot of work in the background for the project to be feasible.
7. Running of the toilet facilities:
 - The toilets continue to remain open all year round.
 - FoSP members monitor weather conditions and if there is a threat of frozen pipes, close the facilities and drain the system.
 - FoSP volunteers have undertaken to keep the toilets clean and tidy as a supplement to the cleaning performed by the council - they are cleaned daily and re-stocked as necessary.
 - The supply of all the items for the toilets has proved expensive but has provided the park visitors with a commendable facility. Sandall Park Café contributed to the winter opening costs. DMBC have recently taken over provision of toilet rolls.
 - Due to council staff shortages, the cafe staff continue to close the toilets. This in fact enabled them to remain open longer during the light evenings.
 - The staff were sent a letter of thanks.
8. Another two memorial benches were installed opposite the lake by DMBC in accordance with new DMBC policy on memorial benches.
9. Work was undertaken to update our Risk Assessments and as a result the development of a Lone Working RA was completed by the Angling Club in conjunction with DMBC.
10. The launch of our Junior Rangers scheme
11. Lots of reparation work has taken place on organised volunteering days - benches painted etc.- a work in progress.
12. Our Junior Ranger was nominated for two categories in the Doncaster Free Press Superkids and was successful in both. Against a lot of stiff competition (there's some super heroes in our community) he won both his categories.
13. 'Don't be a Loafer' campaign continues to prevent the lake being polluted by excessive amounts of bread and more geese suffering from Angel Wing. More donations of bird seed from B & Q enable us to give free seed to park visitors and embark on a campaign of changing feeding habits. Our volunteers continue to seek to educate people though there are still some who continue to feed bread. The donation of seed also supplied our bird feeders and supplied groups from the Doncaster Greenspace Network.
14. Wheelchair roundabout – including University student doing a study of Doncaster's inclusive play facilities.
15. The above sparked the interest in the Changing Place campaign, as a result of the introduction of disabled facilities in the borough, the lack of Changing Places

(a suitable place to change disabled adults and children other than on the floor of a toilet cubicle, and with the appropriate facilities) was highlighted. Much work has gone on in the background to rectify this and have one installed in the park. The direction this goes in is based entirely on what happens with the café situation.

16. WAP2: culmination of 4 years work. The plan was instigated in January and was installed by October!
17. Volunteers transformed plastic bottles litter-picked from the park into poppies to create a Poppy display in the boat and in front of the café for Remembrance Sunday – 100 years commemoration. Lots of knitted poppies were donated too and we raised £35 from the sale of them for the British Legion.
18. The Woodland Trust were applied to for saplings to fill the gaps around the top side of the bog pond. These will arrive in time for the next planting season.
19. The 'garden birds' feeders on the sensory trail are filled up on a regular basis.
20. The Doncaster Brewery named a beer after Sandall Park – a red beer to reflect the clay of the park. They then, later in the year, took many of the red apples from the trees around the bog garden to make Sandall Park cider.
21. Bikes supplied by the NHT were painted and planted up in support of Tour de Yorkshire again.
22. Lake Crisis: botulism followed by blue green algae. Many hours work on the lake by the angling club in the initial stages, and then in conjunction with DMBC and the Environment Agency. It was a constant battle to keep the crisis under control and the anglers worked long hours sorting it out.
23. Project in conjunction with Kingthorne Practice; DMBC Health & Neighbourhoods Team to promote Mental Health & Wellbeing. An ongoing project.

5. Funds

1. The 100 Club continues to raise funds on a monthly basis.
2. Give as You Live on the website continues to raise funds for us.
3. Indizine Web Design have donated in-kind by maintaining the Santa Dash website, so people can book directly on-line for the Doncaster Santa Dash
4. BT MyDonate as a means of donating on-line has proved useful
5. For the 3rd time FoSP was a charity for the Santa Dash and will realise substantial income from it.
6. Several sizeable donations received from local businesses including those received via the Spacehive Crowdfunding Appeal.
7. Full financial report to be presented by Treasurer at the AGM.

6. Grants applied for – unsuccessful

1. None.

7. Grants/donations received

1. £38,500 from Suez for the WAP2
2. £13,499 for the wheelchair roundabout via Crowdfunding including business donations from Yorkshire AV Installations; Doncaster Brewery; Pleveys Garden Centre; Stoneacre; Esmee Fairburn Foundation; DMBC via The Doncaster Movement.
3. £750 Just Giving donations towards the Aerator – from members of the public.
4. Indizine donated in-kind by doing work on the Doncaster Santa Dash web site.
5. Donation by FakeFestivals – contributed towards the funding of the Junior Rangers Club
6. An Operation Anticipate grant of £250 for a Junior Rangers Induction evening

7. Financial contributions have been made by a FOSP member and her brother who lives in Berkshire, in support of the group, along with donations from members of the public.
8. Donation of knitted items which were sold via Facebook and events
9. Ready Steady Store have again donated a large amount of capital to the Easter Egg Hunt and in-kind donation of storage space at their facility for all our equipment.
10. Donations from Rascals Bouncy Castles.
11. Several donations of bird seed from B & Q Distribution Centre. Much of it distributed via the DGSN, courtesy of DMBC.
12. Blakemore Foundation towards the Santa Dash
13. Vouchers from Tesco to go towards the mulled wine for the Santa Dash

8. Publicity/Communications/Networking

1. The notice boards remain very popular and a good source of information for park users.
2. We had sufficient Christmas cards from the previous two years to send to our business partners, sponsors and funders.
3. Flyers are printed for music events and distributed locally and via the Tourist Information Office in Doncaster.
4. Banners and flags displaying our logo are used at displays and on the park fence in agreement with council, to advertise events in the park.
5. Trip Advisor received more comments this year, mostly good and generally 5* ratings. Certificate of Excellence received – 4 stars.
6. Advertising of FoSP and the Santa Dash is in the programmes at Aurora events.
7. Our events and meetings are advertised on the DMBC web site and newsletters and the SNT e-newsletters as well as local media.
8. Several radio interviews were given by 3 FoSP members, on general issues to do with the park, at the Santa Dash and parkrun; about gardening projects in the park; the bread campaign; the new fitness equipment; vandalism. Some of the interviews were live. Radio Sheffield contacted our Comms Manager specifically to talk about volunteering – with 2 minutes notice!
9. The closed Facebook page which was set up just for FoSP volunteers, so they can see what is happening and what needs doing in the park continues to be very useful in sharing ideas and work undertaken.
10. Lots of photos of the park are sent in to us via Facebook.
11. A beer was named after the park – Sandal v1 – courtesy of Doncaster Brewery.
12. Welcome to Yorkshire member. They donated £150 towards the Wheelchair Roundabout.
13. The Doncaster Greenspace Network – DGSN – (Founded by FoSP) continues to be organised by the Countryside Ranger team, arranging meetings, speakers and provide the premises at Sandall Beat wood. They have continued to develop the Network for the benefit of all Doncaster's Groups. FoSP is represented at all the meetings.
14. The FoSP and Santa Dash websites were updated to be secure with a https listing in accordance with GDPR. The FoSP website continues to have Brute Force attacks which are rejected by our security system.
15. Our Communications Manager took part in a Round Table Debate organised by the Free Press and involving key players from DMBC. Such was the amount of material to discuss, it was aired for several weeks in the Free Press and raised much debate.
16. Pokémon Go still takes place in Sandall Park and brings many more visitors in, doing exercise without realising it!
17. Calendars were printed for 2019, funded by Rascals Bouncy Castles

9. Press releases

Included items such as:

- Fake Festival
- World Hook a Duck Championship/Easter Egg Hunt
- Scarecrow Festival
- Doncaster in Bloom awards
- Doncaster Santa Dash
- Damage in the park
- Volunteering days
- Other events in the park
- Sandall Park Beer – courtesy of Doncaster Brewery

In several publications/outlets on numerous occasions:

- Doncaster Free Press
- Posters in park; café and locales
- DMBC publications and web site.
- Facebook
- Twitter
- FoSP web sites
- BBC Radio Sheffield, Sine FM and Trax FM
- The Arrow village magazines

10. Meetings

- With DMBC Programmes Team re funding for major projects, including the Spacehive crowdfunding project.
- Numerous with Neighbourhood team (about all projects and plans; applying for Green Flag status).
- Fake Festivals, Community Parks and Safer Communities staff regarding FakeFest.
- FranLou Festivals re a possible event for 2018
- Meetings & seminars re Changing Place campaign.
- Grounds Team re jobs and projects in park
- Ready Steady Store re sponsorship and events
- Numerous with Charity Fundraising Staff and St Leger Rotary Club, relating to Santa Dash.
- Playground Team re projects in the park.
- Doncaster Place conferences
- Doncaster Greenspace Network, several meetings and tours of the park
- Party in the Park representatives re their event
- Eid in the Park representatives re their event
- Organisers of Doncaster parkrun
- Potential new volunteers
- Anglers re angling club and lake developments
- Sandall Park Cafe and private investor re Sandall Park café and future plans for the park
- Various council officials for tours of the park
- Gardening Clubs – tours of the park
- Prosec UK re supporting FoSP in the park.
- Civic Trust re trees for the park
- People re running events in the park, including Crafting days

11. Angling Club (Sandall Park Angling Club)

1. Three members sit on the FoSP Group and attend the monthly meetings
2. Members do daily litter picks of the park, lake and north bank,
3. Members check and assist with the maintenance of the toilets.
4. The Lake was re-stocked with fish.
5. Are continually working to upgrade the lake and its surroundings with reed cages; work to control flooding and work to shore up the lake edge
6. Organise and plan the bookings for anglers and maintain discipline in the booking of all pegs, including night fishing.
7. Were instrumental in recognising and dealing with the lake crisis due to botulism and blue algae contaminating the lake and birds. Many hours were spent by the anglers on dealing with this issue.
8. Here is a summary of the Angling Club's Report:
 - The outbreak of Avian Botulism & the following Blue/Green Algae outbreak caused a significant expenditure by FoSP, SPAC & DMBC.
 - The loss of 'Day Ticket' sales has also impacted the club severely this year.
 - On the plus side however, it has allowed bankside improvements & further planting to be undertaken. This work has included:-
 - The shuttering & wood chipping of pegs; installation of platforms and dedicated paths to several pegs.
 - The installation of posts around Pongy Corner in the area that is closed off to anglers. This will have additional wires fitted & Ivy introduced to create a 'living fence' in this area. This has recycled the posts that were installed to close the lake off during the periods when the lake was out of bounds
 - Planting has been undertaken in new areas this year as a trial to see if the method used in these areas is successful; this was undertaken when the water levels were lower than they are currently so the success or failure in these areas will not be known until Spring/Summer 2019.
 - These areas include the following:-
 - The bankside along the island nearest the old Boathouse location. – Reedmace & Iris
 - Between the peninsula & the sunken wall. – Greater Reedmace
 - The 2 small bays in the corner between the platforms. – Greater Reedmace & Flowering Rush
 - The corner where the old willow was removed (by rail fence) – Greater Reedmace, Iris & Lillie's in the deeper water in front of this corner.
 - Limited planting in Pongy Corner (supplementing self-seeded plants in this area) – Iris, Reedmace, Amphibious Bistort.
 - Planting near the drain - Lilies
 - Planting between the drain & large willow - Lilies
 - Planting between the corner willow & the leaning tree – Lilies

The results from this planting will help determine the best way to proceed with planting in these areas in the future as this has largely been undertaken within the main 'water column' or from the lake bed rather than from the bankside such as the existing planting at this time.

Plant protection continues to be a challenge, plants that were becoming well established in Pongy Corner when the water level was down have now been grazed upon by the geese once the water level reached its more usual level & are no longer visible. It is possible that these plants will return in Spring/Summer but protection until these plants become more established is now obviously required.

A lot of work has been done that is at this time not 'visible', if this planting is successful the results will be easily visible in the Spring/Summer.

Work already decided on for the coming year is additional planting along the existing island planting to 'fill in' the gap between these plants & the island with an attempt to introduce some plants to the island itself in this area, this would include some sedges & rush's that are at home in shallow water & dry or moist soils. Materials in use at this time will be recycled.

12. Football Club

- No longer represented on the group.

13. Management Plan

The plan, created to comply with Green Flag criteria, sets the parameters for maintenance and development of the park by both DMBC and FoSP.

Issues resolved in accordance with the plan include:

- Reparation of the 'ploughed field' dug up after the circus left it with ruts
- Replacement of dangerous fencing with a custom-built gate for event vehicle access
- Replacement of fencing removed on Barnby Dun Road
- Replacement of fencing on Thorne Road damaged by a vehicle accident.

Issues still to be resolved:

- Footpath repair throughout the park
- Remedial work on the stone steps to the football pitches
- Dredging of Pongy Corner

14. Park Future

The park is continually developed in line with the components of the Business Plan, and in consultation with DMBC. The Management Plan, developed with the Green Space Officer and Safer Communities Manager, was created to ensure the park was eligible for the Green Flag Award, the application for which was successful. The maintenance of the park through the Management Plan will now be key to its sustainability.

The main issue, without a doubt, affecting the future of the park is the development of a new café facility. Currently our volunteers ensure that the toilets are cleaned properly (the council open them and mop them out) and re-stocked with the essentials and this is not sustainable long term. The café staff close them at the end of the day as the council haven't the staff time to do it.

Our ultimate goals are:

1. To install a Changing Place in the park
2. Have the public toilets included in a new café
3. Transform the old toilet block into storage to facilitate easier organisation of events in the park and enable volunteers (and DMBC) to store gardening equipment – making their job so much easier

All the above is dependent on a new café facility to replace the one that is in dire need of a rebuild.

15. The Charity's Policy on Reserves

The annual running costs for the charity are as shown and this amount should remain ring-fenced for the charity to be able to continue its current activities throughout the year. This equates to:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------|
| Web Site maintenance/hosting | - | £ 90 |
| Printing cartridges | - | £101 |
| Photo paper for notice boards | - | £140 |
| Insurance | - | £196 |
| Postage | - | £ 27 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Gaming Licence renewal | - | £ 20 |
| Phone cards for mobile phone | - | £ 20 |
| Toilet facilities: sundries | - | £100 |
| Total: | - | £694 |

16. In Conclusion: A statement from the Chairman

Last year one of our key objectives was to raise concerns about the direction for parks and green spaces within the Borough. It was felt that there was no ambassador for parks and green spaces. This was resolved to some degree by the appointment of a Green Space Officer, who has been doing great work within the short space of time he has been appointed and has progressed the development of the DGSN. Parks and Green Spaces now appear to feature in DMBC's plans and several surveys have been conducted to consult with the public. This has been a major step forward for our green spaces and ultimately the residents of Doncaster.

There is a national interest in parks being utilised to the full for the health and well-being of the nation (and to prevent them being sold for development) and FoSP has this at its heart along with encouraging family recreation. Work has been going on to encourage people to exercise in the park and we will continue in this vein.

Phase Two of the Woodland Adventure Play funded by Suez (Phase One was funded by WREN) was installed in October. This was the culmination of a four-year project, starting with the Golf Course Project (taking down the 284 45' high conifers, installing picnic benches, fitness equipment, additional litter bins and making the area safe). The whole play area cost just short of £100,000, with DMBC and FoSP (around £11,000) contributing towards it.

The Management Plan developed in partnership with the Green Space Officer and Neighbourhood Team to facilitate Green Flag compliance, ensures that the park is developed to its full potential and is sustainable for the future.

Our own Business Plan will be further developed to progress the next five years, having achieved everything we set out to do in the previous five.

Included in that plan will be (in consultation and working with DMBC):

- Working towards installing a Changing Place in the park³
- Installation of a Dog Exercise/Agility Area – Paws Park
- Development of Fitness areas across the whole park
- Development of the Junior Rangers
- Development of the Quiet Corner and promotion of Mental Health Wellbeing

I will finish off by saying thank you to the teams we work with at DMBC, to all our supporters, and a heartfelt thanks to our team of dedicated volunteers - especially those who visit the park day in day out - thus ensuring the park remains at its best. Without them, the park would not be as pleasant, attractive and as well populated as it is today.

There's lots to look forward to in 2019, many projects to take to fruition. It's going to be a great – and busy- year for the park!

Sandra Crabtree

Sandra Crabtree, Chairman 2018

16.01.19

³ Changing Places are purpose-built toilet and changing facilities for disabled children and adults

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee's report above.

17. Current FoSP Committee Members:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Sandra Crabtree (chairman)* | Moira Hood | Carol Burton |
| Ron Ketley (secretary)* | Jean Ketley | Carolyne Burton |
| Kristen Ismay-Johnston (treasurer)* | Barbara Senior | Mairaid Smith* |
| Wendy Barclay (vice-chair) * | Alex Barclay | Frank Woolley |
| Sarah Stokes* | Derrick Bewell | Scott Holland (SPAC) |
| Don Crabtree* | Marianne Downing | Jane Kidd (Cllr) |
| Eva Hughes (Cllr) | Paul Wray (Cllr) | Neil Marshall (SC) |
| Lee Stanley-Gonsales (SPAC) | Colwyn Pugh (SPAC) | Les Jones (SPAC/FoSP) |
| Sam Cummins | Carin Stoddart | Archie Wright |
| Bernadette Greenan | | |

* Trustees