

Friends of Sandall Park



Annual Report 2019





The Friends of Sandall Park

Annual Report January 2019 – December 2019



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The Friends of Sandall Park
Trustees' Annual Report

January 2019 – December 2019

1. Introduction

2019 – and the 80th anniversary of the park opening, just before the outbreak of the Second World War. Much has changed since then but the little girl who was the first person ever to go on the boats on the boating lake remembers it well! She remains interested in the park, attends our major events and wins regularly on our 100 Club. She generally donates the money back.

There was no doubt a park keeper then, but in modern times our volunteers have been the eyes and ears in the park, keeping an eye on things, reporting things that aren't right, keeping the public informed and generally ensuring the park is developed and nurtured to a high standard. It is in constant use every day of the year by dog walkers; runners & walkers; for fitness; cycling; angling; playing; picnics and events. It's a great value for money destination – because it's all free.

This year has been challenging in terms of volunteering. We have several founding members who are no longer fit enough for one reason or another to be hands on with the work. Sustainability is key to the success of any group, and we continue to strive to attract new members. The introduction of the Junior Ranger Scheme, bringing with it the families of Rangers, has assisted greatly in this endeavour. We have encouraged others to become involved, and although not always 'recorded' as volunteers, they help greatly in the park.

Whilst not available to volunteer – we now have an international branch of FoSP (IFoSP) with members in America, the Netherlands and Australia. We are followed on Twitter by them - a fan group of Louis Tomlinson. As a result, they follow 'all things Doncaster' and latched on to FoSP. To cut a long story short, they wanted a memorial tree in Sandall Park so we bought them one. Since then they have donated five trees themselves and take a great interest in our work and that of the Quiet Garden where the trees are planted.

All our plans for the park 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 for the future. Testament to this Maintenance Plan was the awarding of another Certificate of Excellence by Trip Advisor for 2019 and the retention of the Green Flag Award status for the third year running.

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 club².

This includes:

- Writing reports, minutes of meetings and letters
- Reporting remedial work required to council
- Litter picks
- Gardening/planting
- Maintenance tasks
- Maintenance and development of the lake and facilities

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.

² See Appendix A

- 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 several days of preparation and days of 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); websites 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 the calendar and distributing them (and Christmas cards) to our supporters; sponsors; business partners
- Working towards retaining the Green Flag Award.
- 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/cycle races)
- Attending meetings re the future development of the park
- Creation of and meetings, including activity days, for the Junior Rangers Club; design and purchase of supporting material and purchase of kit for the Club members
- Quiet garden planning and development

Hours worked included:

- One Member of Angling Club: for FoSP 'on site' hours – 216; 'off site' hours 144; for SPAC 'on site' hours 237; 'off site' hours 150 = 747 hours in total.
- One volunteer gardener/maintenance: 187
- Second volunteer gardener/maintenance 187
- Junior Ranger Leader 85
- Additional hours by Chairman, Comms Manager; Treasurer; Secretary; other volunteers and Junior Rangers not calculated

2. Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in the Park

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

a. 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 offending in the park we believe. In fact, a crime of shoplifting was detected by volunteers planting on the golf course: the thief was recognised as such by volunteers who gave chase, took his photo (and his accomplice) which were then shown to store

managers at the nearby retail outlet. This resulted in the youths being identified and later arrested (they were both prolific thieves and banned from the stores).

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

1. Bench under the slide in the play area smashed and the council were requested to remove the second bench as it was a gathering place for youths causing anti-social behaviour.
2. More damage to WAP1 – attempts to burn the ropes: agreed with DMBC that the rope knot should be removed to prevent further damage and repair costs. DMBC team subsequently removed it.
3. 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. A second dispenser was installed by DMBC on the old golf course.
4. The sign on the top of the noticeboard was ripped off and couldn't be found. It was subsequently replaced by a custom made wooden engraved board, created by a FoSP volunteer
5. A dog was witnessed attacking and killing a goose, the incident being recorded on a phone. The offender was not traced.
6. Numerous plants and shrubs were stolen from the café garden and rockery.
7. The 'don't feed bread to the ducks' sign was stolen (replaced by Streetscene) and the information lectern on the peninsula was uprooted (replanted by FoSP).
8. 7 metal panels of fencing were stolen from the golf course Barnby Dun Road side of the park. Offenders in a van were caught on CCTV but insufficient to identify the culprits. Fencing replaced by DMBC.
9. The café was burgled via the rear window.
10. Several fires were set in the derelict nursery area all extinguished by the fire service with no damage to the park.
11. Numerous cyber attacks were attempted on the website, rebuffed by our security system. The offender had been traced to a company in China about which numerous complaints had been made but to no effect.
12. Graffiti sprayed onto the football cabins and derelict depot wall, painted over by DMBC and FoSP volunteers.
13. Rubbish bins were set on fire by youngsters and extinguished by staff at the bouncy castles and ice cream van.
14. A wildlife camera was ripped down and completely smashed – even the SD card was dismantled.
15. A Junior Ranger was threatened by some boys older than him, his mum intercepted them and challenged them but was met with abuse. They had told him they had a knife.

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. McDonald's staff did a litter pick during and after the Hook a Duck/Egg Hunt and have done other days.

- i. 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 take juvenile offenders to the park to litter pick. They have access to the Superbin for whenever they want to do any work.
4. Several organisations have been shown how to access the Superbin and bring their volunteers 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.
7. Our Lead Junior Ranger ran a competition at school for a Litter poster. Subsequent winners went to Civic Building to have it professionally designed and printed by the Comms Dept and prizes were awarded by DMBC to the winners.
8. The Council path sweeper has been in the park to sweep the paths clear of duck/goose droppings.

3. Events ³

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. The Doncaster Concert Band presented a concert with the help of the Safer Communities Team but without our assistance, we can no longer help with the running of this event.
7. 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.
 - The Junior Rangers ran a stall and raised funds for the group.
 - 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.
8. The 12th 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. 6 Headliner bands are now the norm after the initial such event last year.
9. The second RSPCA Dog Show* took place again and was well attended. The RSPCA organisers are repeating the event for 2020.

³ All conducted with the invaluable assistance of the Safer Communities Neighbourhood Team, and the Grounds Team.

*Not organised by FoSP

10. The Quiet Garden became an area to promote Mental Health and Awareness. A notice board donated by DMBC is populated by FoSP and Kingthorne Group Practice and concentrates on Mental Health Issues. An arch was installed to create an enclosed area, and the hedgerow extended to create this effect. Several Mindfulness events were held, including Mindfulness Walks; Mindfulness Exercise classes and a Mindfulness Walk for Carers Week, all attended by FoSP volunteers, DMBC staff and staff from Kingthorne Group Practice.
11. Caribbean Fun Days: an event over two days, it's first time in Sandall Park having moved from elsewhere.
12. Doncaster in Bloom: The Fairy Buglins Hotel, Log Garden and Quiet Garden were awarded 5 Gold Certificates in the Sustainable Garden and Community Group Categories.
13. The Santa Dash: 2018 was our best yet, (the addition of snow machines was a great hit) but the decision was taken to call it a day: It was felt we could no longer arrange the event due to ill health of the key organisers. Meetings took place and it was taken over by Curlys Athletes for 2019. They have done a marvellous job in retaining the aspects of the event that we have promoted year on year: accessible to all; selected charities to receive all the entry money back; full sponsorship of the event. They intend to continue the event.
14. The parkrun*:
 - Now in its 7th year is still going strong and encouraging more and more people to take up exercise many of whom had not previously undertaken it. Lots of people show progress in their fitness and health.
 - Parkrun organisers have formed a liaison with Kingthorne Surgery Group Practice to encourage people into exercise. The Practice even have their own team enter.
15. Green Flag Award was reissued to the park: The Award Ceremony in Liverpool was attended by our Junior Ranger and FoSP volunteers. 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* for disabled 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. We have engendered a nice working relationship with the Group Doncaster Mumblers.
18. The UCI World Cycling Championships 27 Sept was brought to Doncaster by the council team and FoSP embraced the chance to promote the town and park as the races were coming past the park. A FoSP Supportive Event was developed, and we advertised to encourage disabled and special needs visitors to make use of our Viewing Hub specially created for them. We had an advertising banner on the fence; letters to Sandalwood residents encouraging them to participate; bunting was made welcoming the cyclists in the numerous languages of the participants; goody bags and hand waving flags (funded by a grant from DMBC) were handed out to the spectators; Yorkshire & Union Jack Flag bunting, plus hand knitted bunting, decorated the whole of the park fence along Thorne Road and the roundabouts, as did Yorkshire flags. Bikes painted in the UCI colours and large teddy bears also adorned the route. Quizzes and games depicting the cycle race were also devised. It attracted hundreds of visitors throughout the day and provided a great atmosphere for the entrants. FoSP made many new friends as a result.
19. Visit to the Quiet Garden by IFoSP member Kim from Florida: Kim wanted to visit her donated tree in the Quiet Garden. We organised a visit to the Tourist Information office where she bought Doncaster products (and received a boxed Paddington Bear from TI); put on a typically English afternoon tea for her, courtesy of our volunteers and attended by volunteers and Junior Rangers; a tour of the

Quiet Garden; a personal tour of the Keepmoat stadium with presentation of a signed Rovers shirt; tour of the Dome and finally, a visit to Donny Brewery & Tap

*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 bed was planted by DMBC.
- The Quiet Garden, for those people who want to sit and reflect, or just have a quiet moment is continually being developed and had a magnificent show of wildflowers this year. 2000 Crocus donated by Rotary Club St Leger (to promote their eradication of polio in children campaign) were planted, along with numerous other seeds and bulbs.
- 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 remains there all year (albeit the race didn't come past the park but did start in Doncaster).

2. 'Pongy corner' (The end of the lake where all the rubbish and silt gathers,) requires continual work to keep it clear of debris. Having been dredged this year this has alleviated much of the problem.

3. Volunteer Days (general maintenance undertaken).

4. 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.
- DMBC took over provision of toilet rolls but this will cease in 2020.
- Due to council staff shortages, the cafe staff continue to close the toilets.

5. Five new benches were created and installed next to where the ice cream and bouncy castles stand – paid for by Rascals Castles.

6. Wood was purchased to transform the stumps along the nature trail into seats. The rotten carved planks had been removed and the stumps had become redundant.

7. The group were contacted by Sainsbury's who wanted to do 150 hours of volunteering for their 150th anniversary. Several meetings took place and it was agreed they would create a mosaic to celebrate the park's 80th anniversary. The public became involved on a grand scale, businesses acted as collection points and everyone got into the spirit of recycling plastic bottle tops, a design was created by Sainsbury's staff. Unfortunately, the mosaic never materialised.

8. Junior Rangers:

- (i) Several activity days were organised throughout the year, finishing off with a Pumpkin Party which was well attended with home-made pumpkin carvings.
- (ii) Four donated substantial trees were adopted and planted by the JR (with help from parents and older sisters). Two Lead Rangers did an excellent job in leading from the front and ensuring everyone was included in the planting of the trees and other shrubs.
- (iii) Six more Rangers were welcomed to the Group, three were from Conisbrough. (27 Rangers now enrolled in total).

(iv) The Green Flag Award ceremony was again attended by our Lead Ranger, this time in Liverpool, where he received the award for the four Doncaster parks on behalf of Doncaster council.

(v) Our Lead Junior Ranger suggested it would be nice to have a Rainbow bench in the park. This signifies a place where children can sit and invite friendship. It's a scheme that was created in schools for pupils who were 'seeking' friends. This was duly completed by the Junior Ranger and his family.

(vi) He also installed an app on his phone, and each of the Rangers had their own icon. When they'd done something good, they were awarded DoJo's (reward points) and he intended having a prize for 3 boys and 3 girls with most DoJo's after a set period. He was congratulated on his achievement and innovation. (vii) Hedgehog boxes were made by a volunteer and sited around the park by Rangers.

9. Lots of reparation work has taken place on organised volunteering days - benches painted, work around the lake, general upkeep etc. - a work in progress.
10. '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.
11. The Changing Place campaign (a suitable place to change disabled adults and children other than on the floor of a toilet cubicle, and with the appropriate facilities) continues to remain on hold. 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 as the intention is to adapt the current male toilets into a CP.
12. Volunteers transformed plastic bottles litter-picked from the park into poppies to create a Poppy display on the topiary garden (most re-used from last year), transforming one of the figures into a soldier with 'Lest we Forget' and in front of the café for Remembrance Sunday. Lots of knitted poppies were donated and reused from last year.
13. The Woodland Trust provided saplings to fill the gaps around the top side of the bog pond. These were planted in the spring.
14. The 'garden birds' feeders on the sensory trail are filled up on a regular basis by volunteers.
15. Lake Crisis: Many hours work continued on the lake by the angling club this year to ensure there was not a repeat of the algae and botulism. The anglers worked long hours putting systems in place.
16. The park footpaths were resurfaced in their entirety. Unfortunately, having done an excellent job of repairing the paths, the contractors failed to reinstall a drain at the 'old boathouse' site and this has left a legacy of problems which hasn't as yet been rectified.
17. A local Cub Scout group answered our request for wooden figures to make a trail round the park. The TicLSticks trail was born! The cubs brought the figures to the park and assisted in siting them to create another trail round the park, which is available on a phone app or via a leaflet we had printed. All the figures are named after famous Scouting people.
18. Dog Agility Paws Park: FoSP were invited to a meeting to discuss the use of the old nursery and bringing it back into green space use. We immediately agreed that it could be utilised and came up with a plan to turn it into an inclusive Paws Park with dog agility capable of being used by disabled dog owners and their pets. Much discussion ensued, a plan was submitted immediately, a Spacehive funding application completed (including a video appeal by two junior rangers) site visits completed, but the council have not yet committed to progressing the plan, citing

lack of funds for the site clearance. This is still ongoing and not likely to come to fruition in the immediate future. We are ready to go at any time.

19. Quiet Garden: arch; notice board installed planting; memorial trees; events for mental health; mindfulness
20. A Bug Hotel was created to help the bio diversity of the park, and on top, a Fairy Buglins Hotel was created and entered in the Doncaster in Bloom competition.
21. Fence planters were planted up on the fence near the disabled fishing pegs
22. A new barrier gate was requested (the fence panel was a danger to users and park visitors) and was installed by DMBC for ease of access for vehicle involved in events. A new barrier was also installed at Barnby Dun Road entrance to prevent vehicle access, a system designed to prevent the constant loss of padlocks.

5. Funds

1. The 100 Club continues to raise funds on a monthly basis.
2. Give as You Live on the website had to be changed from BT to Virgin donate which took some months to achieve, to raise funds for us via Gift Aid.
3. For the 4th time FoSP was a charity for the Santa Dash and will realise income from it.
4. Full financial report to be presented by Treasurer at the AGM.

6. Grants/donations received

1. Substantial Donation by FakeFestivals
2. Financial contributions have been made by a FOSEP member and her brother who lives in Berkshire, in support of the group, along with donations from members of the public.
3. Donation of knitted items which were sold via Facebook and events
4. Ready Steady Store have again sponsored the Easter Egg Hunt and in-kind donation of storage space at their facility for all our equipment.
5. Substantial donations from Rascals Bouncy Castles.
6. Several donations of bird seed from B & Q Distribution Centre. Much of it distributed via the DGSN, courtesy of DMBC.
7. Sponsorship of calendars by Biscuit Billys of Doncaster (a town centre pub).
8. Donations received as a result of Santa Dash
9. Donations from Group Members

7. 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 three years to send to our business partners, sponsors and funders.
3. 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. This was the subject of much discussion again this year with a firm commitment from DMBC to allow our banners on the fences.
4. Trip Advisor received more comments, mostly good and generally 5* ratings. Certificate of Excellence received – 4 stars again.
5. Our events and meetings are advertised on the DMBC web site and newsletters and the SNT e-newsletters as well as local media.
6. 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.
7. Lots of photos of the park are sent in via Facebook.
8. 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 Town Field Pavillion. They have continued to develop the

Network for the benefit of all Doncaster's Groups and have done a good job in ensuring it's continuity. FoSP is represented at all the meetings.

9. The FoSP website continues to have Brute Force cyber attacks from a company in China which are rejected by our security system.
10. Pokémon Go still takes place in Sandall Park and brings many more visitors in, providing a reason to exercise as they walk round
11. Calendars were printed for 2020, funded by Biscuit Billy's pub in Doncaster.
12. Presentations to Ladies Circle at Edenthorpe
13. Presentation to Rotary Club of Doncaster at the Earl of Doncaster. 14. The website Domain name was renewed for a further 3 years
15. We continue to be members of Welcome to Yorkshire.
16. The international group IFoSP was created.

8. Press releases

Included items such as:

- Fake Festival
- World Hook a Duck Championship/Easter Egg Hunt
- The numerous events organised by other groups in the park
- Doncaster in Bloom awards
- Doncaster Santa Dash
- Damage in the park
- Volunteering days
- Awards for our Lead Junior Ranger

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

9. Meetings

- With DMBC Programmes Team re funding for major projects.
- Numerous with Neighbourhood team (about all projects and plans; applying for Green Flag status).
- DMBC and event organiser re Caribbean Event.
- Grounds Team re jobs and projects in park
- Ready Steady Store re sponsorship and events
- Numerous with Curly's Athletes, relating to Santa Dash.
- Playground Team re projects in the park.
- Doncaster Visitor Economy Group regular meetings
- Doncaster Greenspace Network
- 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
- Numerous about Sandall Park Cafe and private investor re Sandall Park café and future plans for the park
- Various council officials for tours of the park
- Various council officials and contractors re future use of the derelict nursery
- Civic Trust re trees for the park

- People regarding organising events in the park, including Crafting days
- Doncaster College re projects in the park
- Sainsbury staff re the creation of a mosaic

10. Angling Club (Sandall Park Angling Club)

1. Two 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. 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
5. Organise and plan the bookings for anglers and maintain discipline in the booking of all pegs, including night fishing.
6. Have maintained the status quo in 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 and continue to do so.
7. Steps being taken to limit the amount of eggs laid and raised by the geese.
8. See Appendix 'A' for full account of work undertaken.

11. Football Club

- No longer represented on the group and no liaison takes place.

12. 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:

- Footpath repair throughout the park. This was completed to an extremely high standard – with the exception that the drain was removed from the boat house area and has not been reinstated despite numerous requests. It remains a major problem with water across the path and has made the situation worse than it was before.
- Dredging of Pongy Corner
- The maintenance of footpaths to the disabled access picnic benches and fitness equipment on the old golf course Issues still to be resolved:
- Remedial work on the stone steps to the football pitches
- Boat house drain (that was removed after tarmac work)

13. 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 for the third year. 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. The café staff close them at the end of the day as the council haven't the staff to do it.

14. The Charity's Policy on Reserves

The annual running costs for the charity are as shown and this amount should remain ringfenced for the charity to be able to continue its current activities throughout the year. Albeit this year we spent £3,150 on maintenance and repairs this isn't expected to be repeated year on year.

Insurance	-	£ 260
Marketing/stationery/computer	-	£ 590
Management/Organisational	-	£ 600
Gardening	-	£1,200
Total:	-	£2,650

15. In Conclusion: A statement from the Chairman

There is a national interest in parks being utilised to the full for the health and well-being of the nation – the 'Green Lungs' of the community (and to prevent them being sold for development) and FoSP has this at its heart along with encouraging family recreation.

Working with Get Doncaster Moving Team, our aim is to encourage more use of the park for exercise and recreation. Phase Two of the Woodland Adventure Play funded by Suez (Phase One was funded by WREN) was installed in October of 2018 and has proved to be a complete hit with families, encouraging them to participate in outdoor exercise through play, without even realising it. We hope to be able to extend this facility – WAP3.

The Management Plan developed in partnership with the Green Space Officer and Safer Communities Team to facilitate Green Flag compliance, is designed to ensure that the park is developed to its full potential and is sustainable for the future. Both FoSP and DMBC have signed up to it.

Our own Business Plan is a living document which aims to develop the park over the course of the next five years.

Included in that plan will be our ultimate goals for this period (in consultation and working with DMBC):

1. Working towards installing a Changing Place in the park⁴
2. Transform the old toilet block into storage to facilitate easier organisation of events in the park and enable volunteers to store equipment
3. Returning the derelict Nursery Site to greenspace incorporating the Installation of an Inclusive Dog Exercise/Agility Area – Paws Park
4. Development of Fitness areas across the whole park
5. Development of the Junior Rangers
6. Development of the Quiet Corner and promotion of Mental Health Wellbeing
7. Increasing the size of the Woodland Adventure Play area WAP3)

Objectives one and two are totally dependent on a new café facility to replace the one that is in dire need of a rebuild, and to include the transformation of the old toilet block on the back of it. A new café is paramount to the success and future of the park. The public toilet situation is not sustainable and neither FoSP nor the park can survive without toilets. The addition of a Changing Place is the way forward for all our disabled and special needs visitors – of which there are many.

⁴ Changing Places are purpose-built toilet and changing facilities for disabled children and adults

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, both FoSP and SPAC - especially those who visit the park day in day out - thus ensuring the park remains at it its best. Thank you too to all the volunteers of parkrun, who attend week in week out to provide the marvellous facility for free exercise. Without all these people, the park would not be as pleasant, attractive and as well populated as it is today.

2020 will, like previous years, be a busy one with many challenges and many projects to take to fruition. It's going to be another productive and busy year for the park!

Sandra Crabtree

Sandra Crabtree, Chairman 2019

15.01.20

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

16. Current FoSP Committee Members:

Sandra Crabtree (chairman)*	Wendy Barclay (vice-chair) *	
Kristen Ismay-Johnston (treasurer)*	Ron Ketley (secretary)*	Don Crabtree*
Sarah Stokes*	Mairaid Smith*	Carin Stoddart
Barbara Senior	Jean Ketley	Frank Woolley
Margaret Richardson	Colwyn Pugh (SPAC)	Scott Holland (SPAC)
Archie Wright(Junior Ranger)	Neil Marshall (SCT)	Eva Hughes (Cllr)

Non-Committee FoSP Members

Derrick Bewell	Bernadette Greenan	Marianne Downing
Carol Burton	Lee Stanley-Gonsalves (SPAC)	

* Trustees

SPAC = Sandall Park Angling Club

SCT = Safer Communities Team

Cllr = Councillor

17. International Friends of Sandall Park

Noelle Finn	(Westville New Jersey USA)
Ester Schrijen,	Sittard, The Netherlands
Kimberley Van Cleve	Fort Lauderdale, Florida USA
Amanda Browning	Fredericksburg, Virginia USA
Tabitha Fenton	Wagga Wagga, Australia

Appendix A

Angling Club Report

Works undertaken this year:-

- FoSP Fencing repairs & upgrades (North Bank & Nature Preserve).
- FoSP Planters on rail fence & at base of rail fence. FoSP
- Installation of Notice Board sign.
- FoSP Construction of 'Buglins |Hotel' & the maintenance of.
- FoSP Staking of 'Jnr Ranger Trees'. FoSP
- Repair of Topiary figure.
- FoSP Installation & securing 'QG Notice Board'.
- FoSP Clearing soil from bench installation 'Brian's patch'.
- FoSP Installation & later repair/upgrade of wire fence behind 'top pond' (Bramble fence)
- FoSP Cutting off of broken tree limbs (where hazard present but no action taken by DMBC)
- FoSP Chopping & removal of fallen limbs (where no removal attempt made by DMBC)
- FoSP Roped off final section of 'Boat Planter' border.
- FoSP Trellis fitted to Toilet Block (Jnr Rangers)
- FoSP Fencing of QG hedge (Dog Prevention) FoSP
- Tidy & Sort behind container.
- FoSP Tidy & sort container.
- FoSP Removal of trolleys, bicycles, wheelbarrow etc. from lake.
- FoSP Bird carcass removal (when seen &/or reported)
- FoSP General litter picking & checking for damage/vandalism around park.
- FoSP Removal of posts from 'Stinky Corner' edging. FoSP
- 'Buglins Hotel' repair & wreath hanging (Carin)
- FoSP Replace Toilet Roll Holder (Gents)
- SPAC Design & Installation of SPAC Peg Identification signs.
- SPAC Installation of 'Aerator Guard'.
- SPAC Bailiff & SPAC Secretary of water duties (includes Bookkeeping) SPAC
- Design & planning of future bankside works for planting etc.
- SPAC Removal of old 'Barley Straw' used.
- FoSP/SPAC Removal of debris from lake bed.
- FoSP/SPAC Construction & Planting of 2 small reedbeds in corner between platforms.
- FoSP/SPAC Design & Installation of SPAC Rules signs.
- FoSP/SPAC Installation of 'Lillies enclosure' off peninsula.
- FoSP/SPAC Bankside enclosing & planting to protect bankside erosion.
- FoSP/SPAC Construction of 'Straw Booms' for future algae outbreak use. FoSP/SPAC
- Service & repair of Fountain.
- FoSP/SPAC Removal of old 'Algae protection methods' used. FoSP/SPAC
- Fishing peg maintenance & woodchip levels.

There's probably a lot more that's been missed, the hours will be off as a result as I'm often 'passing through & checking' when I'm in the area & these would not be posted as such unless there's an issue that needs immediate or urgent attention.

FoSP Hours:- 'On Site' hours	216	'Off Site' hours	144 ¼
SPAC Hours:- 'On Site' hours	237 ¼	'Off Site' hours	150
'Joint' hours:-	453 ¼		294 ¼
Total hours	747 ½		

Appendix B

Summary - Categorized for Charity Commission Return	Income	Expenditure
A1 Fundraising Events	£1,720.96	
A1 Donations, Legacies and Grants	£3,439.54	
A3 Cost of Fundraising Events		£738.50
A3 Cost of Repairs and Maintenance		£3,135.32
A3 Management Costs		£907.24
A3 Insurance		£257.60
A3 Printing, Postage, Stationer and Computer Supplies		£592.19
	Total Income	Total Expenditure
	£5,160.50	£5,630.85