

Friends of Parkinson's Park

Annual General Meeting

Minutes for 2011/2012

7-9pm, 23rd May 2012, Guiseley Theatre

Friend Attendees:

- Colin Alexander (CA)
- Josie Brooks (JB)
- Andrew Cheetham (AC)
- Nicola Denson (ND)
- Caroline Herries
- Ian Hobson (IH)
- Martyn Hornsby Smith (MHS)
- Vivien Hornsby Smith
- Sue Jackson
- Jenny Kirkby (JK)
- Richard Lamb
- Janice Maughan
- Antoinette Morcom (AM)
- Jenny Morcom (JM)
- David Myers
- Chris Parapia (CP)
- Liakat Parapia (LP)
- Darren Shepherd (DS)
- Joanna Sugden
- Barbara Winfield (BW)

Apologies:

- Alec Denton
- Jane Blake

All Friends were emailed a copy of agenda, election of officers, programme of work with budget estimates and constitution before the meeting.

Item 1: Welcome and Apologies (CP)

Chris welcomed everyone for coming. She thanked all the people and groups who have helped us over the last year including Cllr Graham Latty, Cllr Pat Latty, Stuart Andrews MP, Bellway Homes, Ben Greenhow and the Police Community Support Officers, all the committee members, and Friends.

Item 2: Chairperson's Annual Report (CP)

Chris outlined our achievements to date and future plans and events. Chris stated that our main aim is to maintain the improvements within the park with help from Friends and to secure the park's future. Our aim is to do this through stakeholder involvement to achieve a legal framework. This report was proposed by Jenny and seconded by Andy.

Item 3: Strategic Marketing and Land Officers Annual Report (JK)

Jenny said the current group had formed when local residents complained about the wilderness and Councillor Latty said he was looking for a Friends group to help manage the park. She stated how FOPP is a 'test case' of a Friends group working with a private company, as opposed to a local council, and our experience may be useful for neighbourhood planning and localism. She outlined how the park has been put into the Leeds SHLAA (strategic housing land availability assessment) but will hopefully be removed in the summer. Overall the hope is to register the park as a community green space asset on a neighbourhood plan.

She stressed the purpose of the Park, after research has been done with local people, was to be a Chevin managed landscape (not a Victorian) park, that helps, place make, local well-being, and promotes the philanthropic legacy of the Parkinsons; an important legacy for Guiseley's, sense of place. Jenny outlined how the maintenance of the park will be handed over to Meadefleet, (owned 52% by Bellway) on completion of Edison Fields, and that a crucial job now was for the Friends to outline a landscape plan so that we would know what Meadefleet would do on maintenance (funded by the community levy on Edison Fields), and what FOPP would do (funded by the Friends). FOPP would also be negotiation a long term lease on the land, so they could raise appropriate funds.

She outlined the process of Friend and stakeholder engagement including website, work parties and events, and how important engagement will continue to be in building a reputation to gain support and sponsorship. The regeneration programme was then briefly described. Andrew proposed and Nicola seconded the report.

Item 4: IT and Facilities Annual Report (AC)

Andy outlined his background in IT and the setting up of the website and explained the change of website address. He also explained the web gallery and asked people to send in photographs. In the capacity of facilities officer Andrew mentioned the gates, the new bench and the plans for further benches around the park as well as a notice board. Colin proposed and Joanna seconded this report.

Item 5: Ecology and Education Officer's Annual Report (JB)

Josie outlined the ecological value of the park and how we have worked towards enhancing this over the last year. She also outlined future projects and invited all friends to get involved and also to suggest any projects they would like to see undertaken. Jenny proposed and Barbara seconded this report. .

Item 6: History and Education Officer's Annual Report (BW)

Barbara outlined the research into the background of the land where the park is situated and how Frank and Albert Parkinson came to own the land. She outlined that Jenny has involved the West Yorkshire Archaeological Service in identifying a mediaeval rabbit warren and a churn stand within the park. She also explained that David Myers, a Friend, is making a film of the transformation of the park.

Chris proposed and Joanna seconded this report.

Item 7: Fund Raising Officer Annual Report (ND)

Nicola outlined how she had recently joined the committee and her role at Leeds City Council working with local community groups, including other Friends groups. She explained that she has information on available grants and funds which we can apply for and the need to make sure we have funding to cover the basics over and above what Bellway/Meadefleet cover. Andrew proposed and Colin seconded this report.

Item 8: Treasurer's Annual Report (CA)

Colin gave a brief report and outlined our income and expenditure over the last year. He outlined his concerns about budgeting for our financial future and the need to confirm what Bellway will cover.

Jenny proposed and Chris seconded this report.

Item 9: Appointment of independent assessor for the annual accounts (CA).

Colin proposed Tony King as an independent assessor, which was agreed.

Andrew proposed and Nicola seconded.

Item 10: Review of 2011/12 objectives and approval of plan objectives for 2012/13 (CP)

Chris read out the objectives as outlined in FOPP's constitution and asked if all present were happy with them. We received no alterations.

Item 11: Discussion and review of planned programme of work for 2012/13. (JK)

Jenny discussed the programme of work and the estimated budget. Friends asked:

- if we could have signposts directing people to the park,(IH)
 - *would be considered as part of overall neighbourhood plan: agreed good idea*
- about the kite festival cost (IH)
 - *suggested by Bellway who would support, cost was for a display team to ensure there was some kite flying*
- if a butterfly survey could be planned as a good variety in the Park (DS)
 - yes
- how far the building line was coming too
 - *about where it was behind Netherfield Crescent; behind Greenshaw Terr, back gardens would stretch to the snicket. The Park was going to include some of the green break between houses and bottom of the hill, and the use of this could be built into the forthcoming landscape plan.*
- if they could donate a bench (AM)
 - *yes, to see Andy who was organizing*
- how they could get involved with the wild flower project (JM)
 - *see Josie*
- if the heather planting could include gorse (DS)
 - *bilberries considered, to be further discussed between DS/JB*
- how FOPP's insurance cover worked. (MHS)
 - *Public and employers liability*
- what the legal entity of FOPP was (LP)
 - *Unincorporated association, see section 3 of the constitution. Legal entity to be looked at by local solicitor in terms of lease negotiations and for funding*
- if Bellway residents were involved with the park (LP)
 - *Great efforts had been made in finding someone for the committee, there were now three people registered as Friends from Edison Fields*
- to consider the important aspect of how the Park should balance ecology with recreation, given its size, position and the importance of keeping it a community green space
 - *this was being done; would be done in the landscape plan and the neighbourhood plan, so that the overall green space infrastructure for the people of Guiseley [see page 97 of Leeds LDF core strategy]could be planned in line with well-being measures [contained in Government Public Health targets]*
- if the programme of work was 'set in stone' (IH)
 - *No, it was a starting point, things would develop during the year*

Item 12: Review of Friends subscriptions for 2012/13 (CA)

Colin requested that we defer this item until a later date once we have a full budget.
Proposed Jenny and seconded by Chris.

Item 13: Discussion of constitution amendments received by 18th May 2012 (CP)

None were received.

Item 14: Election of 10 Committee Officers. (CP)

Nicola Denson was elected as Fundraising officer and Darren Shepherd as Land Manager. Both were proposed and seconded. No resignations were received by the Secretary by the 18th May 2012 and so other officers already on the committee were elected to serve for another year.

Item 15: AOB, appropriate for the AGM (CP)

We thanked the chair person for all her hard work.

Item 16: Date of next AGM. (CP)

Date provisionally agreed for next AGM as Tuesday 23rd April 2013.