



Annual General Meeting

Minutes for 2012/2013

7-9 pm Tuesday 23rd April 2013 Guiseley Methodist Church

Friend Attendees

**Josie Brooks
Andrew Cheetham
Sue Jackson
Jenny Kirkby
David Myers
Chris Parapia (Chairperson)
Barbara Winfield
Nicola Denson
Alan Pickles
Ian Williams
June Wilson
Roger Halliwell
Geoff Bateson
Jon Denson
Debra Ewing
Sian Cartwright
Alan Shaw**

**Apologies Received from
Colin Alexander
Vivien and Martin Hornsby-Smith
Richard and Gail Lamb
Stuart Andrew M.P.
Councillors Graham and Pat Latty
Ian Hobson
Alec Denton**

Item 1 Welcome and Apologies (CP)

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting and read out apologies as received above.

Item 2 Chairpersons Annual Report

Chris thanked all the committee members, friends and supporters of Friends of Parkinsons Park for their outstanding contribution to this year's achievements.

She also gave a brief overview of the events and work carried out during the last 12 months, including The Jubilee Picnic, Yorkshire in Bloom Competition, Planting of bulbs kindly donated by Groundwork Trust, Development of entrances with plants, Friends Social Evening in November 2012, Installation of additional benches, Wildflower area development and raised beds which have been built as part of the "Edible Britain" Scheme being led by the Royal Horticultural Society. Two bins are now in situ, one at each end of the bridlepath at the top of the park, these are being widely used and making the unsightly view of dog poo less visible. The Hillside Avenue bin was kindly sponsored by White Cross Vets. A third bin is going to be provided at the Nethercliffe Road entrance to the park. This is being kindly sponsored by Waite and Co Estate Agents in Guiseley and by Councillor Latty contributing some MICE money.

All donations and fundraising efforts were also acknowledged and the support of local councillors, our MP and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire Gordon Tollefson for his attendance at the Diamond Jubilee Picnic was much appreciated.

Chris outlined the challenges still to come for the Friends including continuing negotiations with Bellways and Meadfleet and with other council stakeholders.

Paths and Natural Play are particularly important as is the push to secure the long term preservation and tenure of the park in perpetuity for the people of Guiseley, both for our generation and those who will follow after us. Parkinson's park is really the only piece of wild open space left in the Guiseley area and we must strive hard to ensure that it stays that way.

Chris also thanked David Myers for all his hard work in producing the magnificent film " Parkinson's Park A New Chapter" which we will be viewing after the formal meeting.

This report was proposed by Jenny and seconded by Josie

Item 3 Strategic Marketing, Land Officer and Education Report (Jennifer Kirkby)

LAND MANAGEMENT

Maintenance & Landscape Plans

Following regeneration in early 2012, ensuring maintenance was more difficult as Bellway wanted Meadfleet to take over earlier than the end of development. But Meadfleet were not keen before there were proper landscape plans. It was finally agreed that Bellway would do landscape plans for the Park, FOPP would add to that. Then Meadfleet would do a basic maintenance and FOPP would fund all the extras. Until Meadfleet take over Bellway would fund maintenance.

Paths have been discussed with Bellway, and will be funded by a mixture of Bellway and S106 money. A Friends consultation is required to look at this.

Bigger Park out of SHLAA

From last November, the Park acquired the bottom portion of land that goes from the estate upwards. This had not been the case previously. The Park was also taken out of the SHLAA in late summer 2012.

MARKETING

Website for keeping people informed

Has been a key engagement tool for FOPP. We now have 124 followers who receive the regular updates. And about 23 pages are viewed on average every day. Darren's regular Birdwatch is one of the most popular features. This year we are doing a digital recording on the website of the All Our Stories project, which will be archived for the nation by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Also the British Library is now keeping a record of all web pages in the UK.

Membership

During the year we have had 5 new members join, and none give notice that they have left.

Publicity and public relations

We have had an exhibition at the Library, took part in Guiseley Carnival, Yorkshire in Bloom, and the ANF Friends Exhibition. We have appeared regularly in the Wharfedale Observer, and have noticed a growing number of visitors. Including walkers from visiting groups, who greatly appreciate the benches. Our biggest event last year was one of only two events to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee – the other was a show at the Theatre.

Thanks to David Myers we also have a film of the Park's regeneration.

Relationships

We are developing relationships with other local Friends Groups – notably Friends of Yeadon Banks and Friends of Engine Fields. We are also on the Leeds Parks & Green Spaces Forum.

All Our Stories

In the summer we applied for a Heritage Lottery Grant for the All Our Stories project. In the Autumn we heard we had been successful and in 2013 this is now a key year for research and promoting the history of the Park, in order to generate more interest and pride locally in our cultural history. We are running a Geology, Cultural History, Archaeology, and Ecology research project, which will result in information boards, leaflets and talks about the history of the Park, and Kelcliffe. A key part of the grant conditions is to get local people involved in the research.

Proposed by Andy Cheetham and seconded by Chris Parapia

Item 4 IT and Facilities Annual Report (Andy Cheetham)

Proposed by Josie Brooks and seconded by Jenny Kirkby

Item 5 Ecology Officers Report (Josie Brooks)

Proposed by Jenny Kirkby and seconded by Andy Cheetham

Item 6 History and Education Report Incorporated into item 3 in the delayed arrival of Barbara Winfield.

Item 7 Fund Raising Officer Annual Report (Nicola Denson)

Proposed by Chris Parapia and seconded by Josie Brooks

Item 8 Treasurers Annual Report

This was reported on by Chris in the absence of Colin Alexander Treasurer. The meeting accepted and approved the accounts and was proposed by Josie Brooks and seconded by Roger Halliwell

Item 9 Appointment of Independent Assessor

The meeting approved the appointment of Tony King as the independent Assessor. Proposed by Chris Parapia and seconded by Jenny Kirkby

Item 10 Review of objectives and approval of plan objectives for 2013/14.

There were no changes to the objectives for the forthcoming year

Item 11 Discussion and review of planned programme of work for 2013/14

A written schedule of the programme of work proposed was circulated to all present and was approved and agreed. Proposed by Chris Parapia and seconded by David Myers

Item 12 Review of Friends Subscriptions for 2013/14

This item was deferred in the absence of Colin Alexander

Item 13 Discussion of Constitution Amendments received by 18th April 2013

Chris reported that she had received no requests for amendments by the due date.

Item 14 Election of up to 10 Committee Officers

Chris has received the resignation of Darren Shepherd. No other nominations or resignations have been received by the due date. All officers to continue to serve in their current roles for the forthcoming year.

Item 15 All our Stories Project

This item was incorporated into Jenny Kirkby's Report(Item 3)

Item 16 AOB

Information was circulated concerning the forthcoming Aireborough Historical Society Meeting

Date of Next AGM

Wednesday 23rd April 2014 at 7pm. Venue to be confirmed.