

SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION

Chairman
Mr R R Bennett

Vice chair
Mrs L Sims



Secretary
Miss L Wilkins

Treasurer
Miss a Noble

www.pannettpark.co.uk

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Pannett Park
(including Little Park)
21st June 2017 4 pm in the Normanby Room

Present - Bob Bennett, Linda Wilkins, Chris Roe, Gill Wood, Ron Wood,
Anne Noble, Linda Sims, Geoff Wilson, Kath Horsley.

1. Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Bob Bennett was elected as Chair of the Friends of Pannett Park.
Linda Sims was elected Vice Chair of the Friends of Pannett Park.

2. Apologies

Walter Turner, Sorrel Hinchliffe, Anne Dennier.

3. Minutes of the AGM 22nd June 2016

The minutes were confirmed as correct and signed by the chairman.
To be put on the website.

4. Minutes of the Open Meeting 29th March 2017

The minutes were confirmed as correct and signed by the chairman.
To be put on the website. Reports to be circulated to trustees.

5. Minutes of the Management Committee meetings 1st March, 5th April,
3rd May 2017

The minutes were presented to the meeting. They have been available
on the website.

6. Election of Management Committee

The following members of FPP were elected to the Management
Committee of Pannett Park.

Linda Wilkins (secretary)

Anne Noble (treasurer)

Kath Horsley, Geoff Wilson, Sorrel Hinchliffe.

Nominations on file.

Geoff Wilson was formally welcomed to the committee.

7. Volunteers' Report Gill Wood reported -

Notes from a Volunteer Gardener April - June 2017

April. The month got off to a sunny start with the planting of 100 Primula veris near Peony Steps. Mahonia were pruned & Jurassic Garden weeded. New planting was watered regularly, & weeding of Twin Rockeries carried out. Climbing plants were tied in throughout the month, boards & bins cleaned & Commemorative Garden weeded. Pond plants were added to the wildlife pond. Cortaderia were tidied & pin curb edging started. Ivy cleared near the Lily Pool & the area weeded, Bagdale entrance weeded, also aquilegia rockery. The external rose beds were weeded & the museum terrace swept. The weather turned from tropical (almost!) to polar by the end of the month.

May. Main gates rockery was weeded & forsythia pruning carried out. Work started early in the month in the Community Garden with weeding, installing plant supports & preparing the beds for sowing & planting. Towards the end of the month plants grown by FPP were added & direct sowing carried out. Later spring bedding was pulled. St. Hilda's terrace border was weeded & tidied. Watering & tying in of climbers continued. Paths were edged off & a sun dial border weeded. The sedum were 'Chelsea Chopped' & herbaceous borders were dead headed.

June. Commemorative Garden, Peony Steps & St. Hilda's Terrace lower entrance were weeded. Watering & tying in of climbers carried out as usual. The central bed in Jurassic Garden was weeded, & jasminum & convolvulus removed from the museum walls where it was threatening a takeover again. More planting & watering took place in the Community Garden. Roses were dead-headed.

Volunteer gardening hours for 2017:578. Since 2005:16,056

All this is made possible through continued partnership working.

Horticulture Report 2016 - 2017

July 2016. The route for Yorkshire in Bloom judging was primped, preened & pruned to a very high standard resulting in our 5th consecutive gold award at the Yorkshire in Bloom ceremony in September at York Race Course. Lavandula in Harry Eatough's rose bed was replaced.

September. Following restructuring of the horticulture group plans for the year were drawn up.

October-November. The year's projects began with the planting of hyacinth bulbs donated by FPP in the bedding displays, 210 Narcissus 'Actaea' in the Community Garden & 5 Pinus strobus in the Scots pine copse. One thousand N. 'Mount Hood' & assorted donated narcissus were planted near the Jurassic Garden & N. Carlton added to the outdoor classroom area. Jasminum officinale & J. nudiflorum were removed from the walls of the museum terrace.

December. Pupils from St. Hilda's Roman Catholic Community Primary School helped plant Crocus tommasinianus 'Ruby Giant' on the bank near the play area. This was in support of the RHS Greening Grey Britain campaign & the Rotary Club 'Purple4Polio' campaign'. Funded by a grant from NYCC Cllr Joe Plant's locality budget 80 Rosa 'The Yorkshire Regiment' were planted in the Rose Garden. Renovation of Union Steps Rockery & shrubbery began with hard pruning & raking off, levelling of a slope, & turfing, with an under planting of crocus. Tree works were carried out in South Seas Garden with the removal of a sycamore threatening the wall & crown lifting of other trees.

January 2017. Peony Steps shrubbery was hard pruned to regenerate the shrubs & Ilex 'Golden King' was added.

February. Donated water lilies were added to the Lily Pool. A hedgerow of whips was planted in the South Seas Garden thanks to the TVC 'I Dig Trees' campaign. When mature these will provide shelter & food for wildlife. These include Salix caprea, Viburnum opulus, Prunus spinosa & Crataegus monogyna.

March. New planting on the museum walls began with the addition of Trachelospermum jasminoides, Wisteria sinensis 'Alba', Rosa 'Geoffrey Smith', Actinidia kolomikta & Garrya elliptica 'James Roof'. Prunus 'Kanzan' replaced one that had died. Four Lonicera periclymenum 'Serotina' were planted on the Community Garden arches. Three donated acers were planted in South Seas Garden. Work started on a small pond & bog garden near Jurassic Garden to provide a wildlife habitat. Three Magnolia soulangeana were planted near the Jurassic Garden & a donated Magnolia grandiflora in the museum bed.

April. 100 Primula veris were planted near Peony Steps, Betula utilis var. Jacquemontii 'Grayswood Ghost' was planted in Union Steps rockery & a replacement Fagus sylvatica 'Purple Fountain' above the floral clock. Three Lonicera periclymenum 'Graham Thomas' were added to James Godbold's arch at Union Steps entrance & two buxus cones were planted in the Commemorative Garden.

Work continued on the wildlife pond & bog garden with the addition of more native plants & much help from Roger, Keith & team. A plant list was circulated.

The Prunus blossom has brought pleasure to many, & the Magnolia stellata in Jurassic Garden look delightful now that they are maturing.

The new plants are doing well apart from the Trachelospermum jasminoides which looked rather yellow. They recovered after a seaweed feed. The new planting was watered regularly. The weather conditions have been challenging to the new plants with strong sun & drying winds for a great deal of the month. The spring bedding has looked very good, the violas struggled over winter but rallied well after a feed.

May. A dry month with strong sunshine & winds resulting in damage to the Cupressus macrocarpa at the Lily Pool. Watering of new planting was carried out regularly. The Community Garden was planted up with vegetables, herbs & Dahlia 'Mignon' for the RHS bee research. One of the new wisterias is purple, not white as ordered. It will be replaced. A horticulture sub committee meeting took place & ideas for bulb planting in South Seas Garden were discussed & also plans for the Bloom competitions. Further dead lavandula in Harry Eatough's rose bed was replaced.

June. Summer bedding was planted out. We've come full circle & are now planning for two visits by Bloom judges shortly.

8. Chair's Report

Bob Bennett reported -

It's been another great year for the Park, winning a fifth Yorkshire in Bloom Gold Award & a seventh Green Flag. We were also given an award for heritage by Scarborough Muck & Magic.

Our events continue to attract a regular following.

Pannett Day 2016, a Love Parks week event, was a huge success.

A new game, Hook a Duck has proved popular.

Halloween 2016 was as spooky as ever.

Christmas was celebrated -

Lord Normanby provided us with another lovely Christmas tree & Wynne Jones of the Lit & Phil, performed the official switching on ceremony, festive refreshments were provided.

We were pleased to assist stewarding the lantern parade for Whitby Christmas Festival, which set off from the park on what was probably the coldest day of the year.

FPP joined in the Churches Together Kidzfest at Eskdale School in December & made Pannett Park angels with the young participants. Thanks to Kath & Linda for decorating the tree for the St Mary's church Christmas Tree festival.

As usual a festive e card was sent to those with contacts with the park

Easter in the Park 2017 was cold & wet but oddly enough, we still had the usual turnout, which was very pleasing.

5 new folding tables have been purchased & we have been given 12 folding chairs.

Pannett Day 2017 - Wednesday 26th July, 11 to 3 - all the usual stalls, games & entertainment. It will be worth seeing the Rotter's new smoothie machine! Please come along & help if you can. We have produced a Yorkshire Day quiz as a fundraiser, £1, & Keith has generously donated a photograph on canvas of his, now famous, Commemorative Garden picture. Pippa from the new museum tea room will be opening specially for us.

2016 was the 10th anniversary of the restored floral clock, a good reason for a celebration! The cake, created by Bothams, was wonderful & tasted every bit as good as it looked.

FPP social events during the year have included drinks at the Resolution, Fish & chip suppers, Christmas dinner at the Penny Hedge & breakfast bacon butties in the park.

Maintenance has continued -

The lamp posts on main drive have had the top sections painted, completing the job. The main notice board has also had the lettering repaired and has also been repainted. Both notice boards now have new makrolon glazing fitted.

The clock interpretation board has been repainted & updated. The paint for the uprights has been purchased and repainting of that is imminent, prior to reinstallation of the artwork which is with Vinyl Signs.

Teak oiling of benches is well in hand.

Arches were built over the community garden gates & the new Lonicera is doing well.

The particular highlight in May was that our attempt to prevent the tadpoles being sucked into the lily pool pump resulted in Keith's big swim. Sadly no photographic evidence.

The clock face has been pressure washed & looks much better.

Nest boxes were checked & cleaned in January, thanks to Walter. John McEachen, Whitby Naturalists, & Walter have since checked the boxes for activity & plan to ring some of the young birds.

Whitby Naturalists have held spider & hoverfly workshops in the park.

A trustees meeting was held in October. We are pleased to hear that the WTC representative on the management committee will again be Heather Coughlan, although sadly John Freeman has resigned due to other commitments.

FPP Open meetings were held in October & March.

We re-joined the RHS in order to take advantage of their insurance scheme. This means we get a free group visit to an RHS garden - Harlow Carr on 30th September 2017.

We have taken every opportunity to promote the park & attended a leaflet exchange in Scarborough & a Muck & Magic plant fair, also in Scarborough & had a stand at the Yorkshire in Bloom presentation in York. Talks about the park were given to Whitby Lions & Sleights Ladies Group. Armed Forces Day on 24th June will give us another chance to promote the park & Splat the Rat will provide some entertainment. The "Park Mile" is now being promoted by Springvale Surgery & Whitby Hospital physiotherapy department.

The Art in the Park leaflet was extremely well received & John Freeman generously gave us the original drawings to sell.

In April Peter Rossdale produced a book of photographs & poetry as a tribute to the volunteer gardeners.

In the autumn the park had two seconds of fame, featuring in the ITV winter walks programme.

Pannett Park has been registered as a "Love Parks" venue for Love Parks week 2017.

We have 2 tickets for the Green Flag awards in Hull on Tuesday 18th June. Thanks to Ron for sending photos of people enjoying the park for the introductory video for the event.

Thanks to Ron for all his work on videos & photography & keeping the website up to date.

The park Facebook account now has 625 likes, thanks to Gill for the weekly posts.

We are all absolutely delighted by the restored collaborative working between museum, park & art gallery. The reformed joint marketing group has met every two months since January & there are some new & exciting proposals.

An Advert has been placed in the Whitby Park & Ride bus - joint marketing with Whitby Museum & Pannett Art Gallery.

Thanks go to Whitby Town Council for use of the coffee machine by volunteer gardeners, to Whitby Museum for use of the Normanby Room for open meetings & to the Spa Pavilion for a room for management committee meetings. We also really appreciate all the support we get from local individuals & businesses.

GW expressed thanks for the time spent by Bob & Linda on park matters.

9. Deputy Parks & countryside manager's Report

Chris Roe reported -

The park was awarded its seventh Green Flag in July 2016 & again achieved marks in the top bracket in both field & desk top assessment. Well done to all those who contributed to this.

In 2017 we are being judged by a mystery shopper and we are awaiting the results shortly.

The park was judged by Yorkshire in Bloom's Steve Brumby & Derek Hargreaves. This resulted in the park being awarded Gold at the Yorkshire in Bloom ceremony & helping Whitby to achieve silver gilt in Yorkshire in Bloom. Congratulations & thanks to everyone involved. It is good that we are maintaining the standard.

During autumn & winter we were kept busy. Following recommendations from the horticultural sub group the following was agreed -

- Old park cottage base to be highlighted, autumn 2017
- Union steps rockery to be replanted, autumn 2017
- Stone pillars for the park entrances on Chubb Hill
- Artwork from James Golbold for union steps entrance, April 2017

We are entering the final 18 months of the first 10 years of the HLF Monitoring. We need to develop the maintenance plans for the next 10 years then a further five years beyond that. We have around £24 000 in HLF funds to spend during the next year.

A training visit to Sledmere Walled Garden with head gardener, Andy, was inspirational & enjoyed by all.

Visits to Burnby Hall & Newby Hall are planned for July.

My role is changing, as I am now the Deputy Parks and Countryside Officer for the Borough, which means I will be taking a more wide ranging post supporting the Manager. However I will of course still be dealing with all parks work within the borough

Congratulations were expressed to Chris on his promotion, by RB, on behalf of FPP.

10. Financial Report.

The financial report, given by the treasurer, Anne Noble, was received. £5080.91 in the bank at the end of the financial year.

Accounts prepared by Chris Hunter. Accepted unanimously.

Full copy of accounts filed with minutes.

11. Date of next meeting

Date of next Open Meeting - Wednesday 18th October 2017.

Open meetings 2018 to follow the same pattern as 2017 -

Open meetings spring & autumn, AGM June.