

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)
22nd June 2016 4 pm in the Normanby Room

Present - Bob Bennett, Linda Wilkins, Chris Roe, Gill Wood, Ron Wood,
Anne Noble, Kath Horsley, Amanda Smith.

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, Linda Sims, Joe Plant

3. Minutes of the AGM 24th June 2015

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

4. Minutes of the Open Meeting 23rd March 2016

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

5. Minutes of the Management Committee meetings 2nd March, 6th April,
4th May 2016

The minutes were presented to the meeting.

6. Election of Management Committee

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

Linda Wilkins (secretary)

Anne Noble (treasurer)

Kath Horsley, Gill Wood, Sorrel Hinchliffe.

Nominations on file.

7. Assistant Operations Officer's Report

Chris Roe reported -

The park was awarded it's sixth Green Flag in July 2015 & for the first time achieved marks in the top bracket in both field & desk top assessment. Well done to all those who contributed to this.

The park was judged by Yorkshire in Bloom's Steve Bumby and again by Jon Wheatley & Glenn Dale as part of Whitby's entry in Britain in Bloom. This resulted in the park being awarded a Gold at the Yorkshire in Bloom ceremony & helping Whitby to achieve a silver gilt in Britain in Bloom. Congratulations & thanks to everyone involved.

During Autumn & winter the four remaining rectangular beds were altered to create elongated crescent shapes, to complement the elliptical beds. However this resulted in the loss of a Cotoneaster cornubia & to compensate three new ones were planted in the Chubb Hill border. A Golden Holly sphere was planted in each bed to give height.

A huge thank you to those who donated trees, their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Autumnal gales caused some serious problems. We lost two Crataegus "Pauls scarlett", one on Ts Hilda's Terrace & another on the bank. The Cupressus shed several branches & a large limb was lost from a Prunus pissardi near Chubb Hill gate. On inspection several other Prunus show signs of decay & a programme of coppicing will start this autumn.

Recruiting an apprentice proved difficult this year, Lewis Hainsworth was eventually appointed in February.

Three training visits were organised, two to Manor Road nurseries & one to Hill's nursery. It was useful to make comparisons.

During the spring the park hosted a CLOK orienteering event which is now becoming an annual feature. There are also six junior orienteering events for 2016.

The park goes from strength to strength & special thanks go to Wynne Jones for bringing back the partnership working between Museum, Park & Art Gallery.

8. Chair's Report

Bob Bennett reported -

It's been another great year for the Park, winning a Yorkshire in Bloom Gold Award, a sixth Green Flag & Love Parks Event of the Year.

Pannett Day 2014 was a huge success. It was for this that we won Event of the Year. We were joined by Lynsey Atherton and Ron Whatling from Keep Britain Tidy who helped us to hoist our most recent Green Flag and who presented plaques recognising the efforts of the SBC parks staff and the Friends group. Thanks to Anne for attending the conference & glittering ceremony in Nottingham.

This also coincided with the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Friends of Pannett Park.

The weather for the Halloween Event was truly dreadful. As ever this was an event staged primarily for younger visitors. The young people from the Paul Nicholas School of Acting braved the cold & rain to perform a promenade play with a range of spooky characters.

We were far more lucky with the weather Easter 2016. The Paul Nicholas School of Acting delighted us with a performance in the open air of 'Alice & the White Rabbit'. The 'Rotters' were again in evidence this time bringing with them a cross section through a compost bin. Whitby in Bloom put on a popular craft event making jewelled eggs. YCH also offered a craft activity. This proved to be a bumper event and we had even more children than ever taking part in the games and activities. Another good day was had by all.

New games are planned for our next event - the ducks are still looking for a pond!

Publicity displays in the TIC & at Victoria Farm have promoted the Park, the Museum and the Art Gallery. Thanks to Gill & Ron for that.

FPP social events during the year have included drinks at the Resolution, Fish & chip suppers, Christmas dinner, an Italian Meal at Cosa Nostra, breakfasts at Victoria Farm, lunches at Dean's Garden Centre. If anyone has any ideas for a social "do" please let me know.

Maintenance continues -

The clock face has been pressure washed & the hands re-painted, while the mechanism was removed for repair.

Many other general repairs have been completed.

The website averages 800 hits per month.

The park Facebook account now has 428 likes,

Lord Normanby provided us with another lovely Christmas tree. Thanks to Kath & Linda for decorating the tree for the St Mary's church Christmas Tree festival. A new tree was bought for this year & new decorations have been cut from silver & gold for next year.

FPP joined in the Churches Together Kidzfest at Eskdale School in December & made Pannett Park angels with the young participants.

As usual a festive e card was sent to those with contacts with the park, although the reindeer grazing around the Green Man caused some consternation.

We hope everyone enjoyed our April Fool suggestion of a digital makeover for the floral clock.

Le Tour de Yorkshire again passed the park and we put out the bunting to show our support.

2015 was the 10th anniversary of FPP. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the "posh picnic" in the Community Garden, catered by Pam Hopper.

Hot off the press is the Art in the Park leaflet. John Freeman kindly donated the beautiful drawings & Marcus has again come up with a stunning design. John has arranged for the original drawings to be framed & sold to raise funds for FPP. First choice goes to FPP.

Thanks go to Whitby Town Council for use of the coffee machine by volunteer gardeners & for the art gallery for open meetings. A trustees meeting was held in September. We are pleased to hear that the WTC representatives on the management committee will be John Freeman & Heather Coughlan.

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 June.

The Community Garden is moving in a different direction - developing more into a space for the community to enjoy rather than actually garden in. Oak arches are being made to fix over the gates as support for honeysuckle, thanks to Mike Fenby for an excellent price & donation of oil.

Whitby Town Council are borrowing our tombola drum & possibly some games for Armed Forces Day. We have also lent games to several local fundraisers.

Love Parks have a "Healthy mile" planned for July, which ties in with our plan for some measured routes around the park.

Nest boxes were checked & cleaned in January, thanks to Walter. Many had metal squirrel proof entrances fitted.

There are several sub - groups and we would be delighted to welcome new members to any of them -

Horticultural

Website

Events

Once again my thanks to everyone who contributes to the success of the park.

9. Volunteers' Report Gill Wood reported -

Notes from a Volunteer Gardener April 2016- June 2016

April. The santolina was pruned to bring it into shape & weeding was carried out on the terrace & main drive prior to the Easter event. The clematis were checked & tied in. The hydrangeas were pruned when the worst of the winter was over & sterling work carried out on Bagdale border removing dead Vinca & rampant weeds. Hyacinthoides non-scripta (English Bluebell) in the green were planted in the woodland & Primula vulgaris (common primrose) & Primula veris (cowslip) were planted near Peony Steps. Weeding was carried out again on the museum terrace, Commemorative Garden & twin rockeries. The Rose Garden was weeded & self sown plants removed from the sun dial borders. All climbers fed & tied in. A thick mulch of chipped bark was spread on the herbaceous borders & the summer programme of edging paths started.

May. The bins & boards were scrubbed & a programme of weeding prior to Green Flag judging commenced with the entire route being covered by the team. Dead Lavandula was removed from Harry Eatough's bed. Climbers growing rapidly were tied in regularly. The area at the back of the hydrangea bed seat was cleared & tidied.

June. The Bergenia were dead-headed & hardy fuchsia tidied up. Boards & bins cleaned, rose garden weeded, twin rockeries tidied & work continued on ivy hill. St. Hilda's Terrace border was weeded

All this is made possible through continued partnership working.

Volunteer gardening hours 2016: 475.
Since 2005: 14,855.

Horticulture report for the year

July 2015. Prior to Yorkshire in Bloom judging gaps in borders were filled with *Lavandula*, *Cephalaria*, *Heuchera*, *Stipa* & *Viburnum* 'Eve Price'. Some new plants were added at the main gates & hard landscaping added. Extra sessions were done to have the park looking super, & were repeated for Britain in Bloom.

October 2015. The letters EIRR in the Floral Clock, formerly depicted in annual bedding were replaced with *Buxus sempervirens*. This has added permanent structure to the planting.

November 2015. The rectangular beds that formed part of the embankment's bedding display were reshaped to compliment the existing elliptical beds. Dot plants of spheres of *Ilex* 'Golden King' were added. 3 *Cotoneaster Cornubia* were planted on Chubb Hill. These are striking plants with stunning autumn berries. 2 donated *Hydrangeas* & 1 *Buddleia* were planted at the Lily Pool. 4 shrub roses with striking hips were planted. 5x25 kg bags of *Narcissus* 'Carlton' were planted in gaps on the wild embankment. *Rosa* 'Tuscany Superb' replaced an outgrown *Olearia* on the main drive. The tree planting programme continued with the addition of a *Liriodendron tulipifera* & 2 *Davidia involucrata*.

February 2016. 3 trees (1 donated) were planted: *Fagus sylvatica* 'Purple Fountain' below the Floral Clock, *Prunus serrula* (Thousand Hours Tree) below Commemorative Garden & *Malus* 'Red Jade' replaced a storm-damaged hawthorn on St. Hilda's Terrace. The 'Bull Nose' was cleared, levelled & seeded, & the planting used elsewhere.

March 2016. 1000 *Eranthis hyemalis* (winter aconite) in the green were planted in the winter border. *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* (English bluebell) were planted in the woodland and *Primula veris* (cowslip) & *Primula vulgaris* (common primrose) were planted near Peony Steps. A mulch of chipped bark was applied to the herbaceous borders. The roses were second pruned & fed, & the *Cornus* hard pruned.

April. General maintenance was carried out, including pruning of *hydrangeas*, & tying in of climbers.

May. A programme of increased maintenance was started as weed growth escalated & the judging season began with Green Flag on 19/5. The entire judging route was prepared by the team. Dead lavender was removed from Harry Eatough's rose bed. Two truck loads of assorted wild flower plants were planted on the wild bank including *Lychnis flos-cuculi* (ragged robin), *Silene dioica* (red campion), *Leucanthemum vulgare* (oxeye daisy) & *Papaver* (poppy).

June. With Yorkshire in Bloom judging pending in July thoughts turned to preparation of the judge's route. The summer bedding was planted by the middle of the month.

10. Financial Report.

The financial report given by the treasurer, Anne Noble, was received. £4040.10 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 19th October 2016.

Open meetings 2017 to follow the same pattern as 2016 -
Open meetings Spring & Autumn, AGM June.