

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)
30th July 2020 (held electronically)

Replied to email & voted - Bob Bennett, Linda Wilkins, Anne Noble, Linda Sims, Heather Coughlan, Kath Horsley, Gill Wood, Ron Wood, Nigel Dixon, Chris Edey, Walter Turner, Sorrel Hinchliffe.
Replies on file with minutes

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. Minutes of the AGM 26th June 2019

The minutes were confirmed as correct.
To be put on the website.

4. 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, Nigel Dixon, Sorrel Hinchliffe.

5. Financial Report.

The financial report, given by the treasurer, Anne Noble, was received.
£6572.89 in the bank at the end of the financial year.

Accounts prepared by Alan Wright. Accepted unanimously.

Full copy of accounts filed with minutes.

6. SBC Report

Keith Wright reported -

July

Preparation for & judging of Yorkshire in bloom, all went well.

The Park received the Green Flag & also the Heritage Award.

Manor Road Nursery closed and the Parks Department moved to Dean Road. Parks staff & Friends groups were able to visit the new facility later in the year.

Preparation for Britain in Bloom continued and despite terrible weather on the day all went well.

Pannett Day was a success, as usual

September -

At the Yorkshire in bloom awards at York the Park received a platinum award.

October -

The rose bed inspection found we needed six replacements + 8 standard roses.

After a meeting on Union Steps it was agreed to crown lift trees that were shading the rockery.

A planting plan was drawn up and the rockery was cleaned off ready for planting.

Spring bedding arrived and was planted, with hyacinth bulbs going in later. Allium were planted in various borders

The gate at bottom Saint Hilda's Terrace entrance was removed for safety. Whitby was awarded a gold in Britain in Bloom, the park having been part of the judging.

The park was also nominated for a discretionary award.

At the Halloween event all went well.

November -

Louis the peacock returned, refurbished.

A Burnt Sugar Tree was planted in memory of the late park superintendent David Laws. A plaque on a seat on the museum terrace having been put in place during August.

Fritillaria, in memory of Ron Whatling, were planted on the bank near bottom Chubb Hill gate.

We were pleased to see these flower in the spring.

Whitby Lions 50th anniversary crocus were planted with the aid of local schools on a very wet day.

December -

A Christmas tree, donated by Lord Normanby, was installed and Otis turned the lights on.

January -

Walter did his bird box cleaning and recording.

RSPB Garden Bird Watch, bird count was done, thanks to Geoff.

Union Steps Rockery was planted

New standard roses, Rosa xanthine "Canary Bird" were planted.

The clock shrubbery had problems with dieback and was cleared re-planted and re-turfed.

Poppy seed was sown, near the Commemorative garden.

February -

Alliums were added to Union Steps Rockery

The pond had its annual usual clean and the pump was re-installed.

March -

Then came COVID-19 and lockdown, a very difficult time for all, staff shielding and priorities became bins and waste. This left the park's team short staffed and with no seasonal staff being employed it was a massive struggle. With a lot of hard work and superb teamwork we have been able to keep things ticking over and all areas have been maintained very well considering. Thanks to everyone for their support throughout this crisis and look forward to welcoming back the volunteers.

You have been missed!!!

7. Chair's Report

Bob Bennett reported -

As always the park has looked stunning, which was confirmed by Bloom & Green Flag judges in their verdicts for 2019. There has been no Yorkshire in Bloom judging this year and Green Flag judging is postponed with results in September. We will be visited by a mystery shopper.

Pannett day, in July, was a great success with a record number of external participants. We were pleased to welcome the Civic Society & the Literacy project story telling tent. Thanks to everyone who helped. In September Whitby Lions held an event in the park which went well, although torrential rain showers deterred the crowds.

The Halloween event all went well, with the "tarted up" bats for splatting proving popular. The rats had received similar treatment for Pannett Day.

Christmas celebrations followed the usual pattern with an FPP ecard being sent to our supporters, festive refreshments & switching on the lights of the tree, an FPP tree in the St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival & Christmas lunch at the Saxonville.

The Little Free library was finally finished & installed ready for a launch on World Book Day in March, just in time to be closed down again due to the Covid 19 situation. However it is now back in service again.

In March FPP clocked up 20,000 hours of volunteer gardening since their formation in 2005. The 20,000th hour was worked by newest volunteer, Chris Edey. The Whitby Gazette did us proud with a good spread celebrating this.

Everyone was really sad not to be able to join volunteer gardening groups on Tuesday & Wednesday mornings when Covid 19 & lockdown struck. We realised how much we missed socialising with other FPP & the SBC team.

We all had some fun composing verses for Limerick Day on 12th May. They are in the archive section of the website if anyone missed them.

Recently we have been working with the Captain Cook Museum by identifying plants in the park which appear in Bank's Florilegium, in preparation for an exhibition in the Art gallery in October.

We are currently working with Tom Matthews, Love Exploring, who is designing an interactive app for downloading, due to be launched 1st August. I think chatting to dinosaurs will appeal to young & old alike. Last but not least I would like to thank everyone for all their efforts in the park, volunteer gardeners & the SBC team. With a special mention to our apprentice, Otis.

8. Volunteer Gardener's Report

Gill Wood reported -

FPP volunteer gardeners continued to work on Tuesday & Wednesday mornings prior to lockdown. Extra sessions were worked by arrangement. Jobs for the day are discussed with & supervised by the Park Keeper & staff. Working in partnership with SBC the volunteers have weeded, pruned, managed herbaceous & climbing plants, planted, watered & edged paths & borders throughout the year. They have been responsible for the Community Garden. Bins & notice boards have been cleaned regularly. Two new volunteers have been recruited. Work was suspended during corona virus lockdown. As usual thanks to the SBC team for their continuing support.