

Chairman
Mr R R Bennett



Secretary
Miss L Wilkins

Treasurer
Miss A Noble

www.pannettpark.co.uk

Minutes of the Open Meeting of the Friends of Pannett Park (including Little Park)

19th October 2016 4 pm in the Normanby Room

Present - Bob Bennett, Linda Sims, Linda Wilkins, Chris Roe,
Anne Noble, Amanda Smith, Kath Horsley, Steve Smith,
Sorrel Hinchliffe, Geoff Wilson, Heather Coughlan.

1. Apologies - Gill Wood, Ron Wood, Joe Plant
2. Minutes of the Friends of Pannett Park Open Meeting, 26th March 2016
The minutes were agreed correct, to be put on the website.
3. Minutes of the Pannett Park Management Committee meetings, 1st June, 6th July, 3rd August, 7th September 2016.
The minutes were presented to the meeting.
They had been available on the website.
4. Chairman's Report - Bob Bennett reported -

Easter in the Park 2016 was a success with the usual games, stalls and competitions and the Paul Nicholas School of Acting put on a delightful and imaginative performance which involved Alice & the Easter Bunny.

In June the clock hands were removed and repainted, causing consternation from some that the April Fool suggestion for a digital clock was becoming a reality. The mechanism was removed for servicing at the same time.

The "Art in the Park" leaflet was launched in July. John Freeman generously donated the drawings which have made the leaflet something really special. The original drawings were framed and sold to boost FPP funds, for which we are very grateful.

The Community Garden continues to develop and now features taster beds for seasonal vegetable and culinary herbs. It is good to see families helping themselves to some leaves for a salad or some mint for their potatoes. A new addition is “The Park Mile”, following an initiative by Love Parks, a map marks a half mile route round the park. Walk it in both directions to cover a mile. We hope to work with Spring Vale surgery to make this available to patients advised to exercise. Arches have been built over the gates to the garden and there are plans to plant honeysuckle to grow over them.

Pannett Day 2016 went extremely well and we were joined by Whitby in Bloom, Yorkshire Coast Homes, Paul Nicholas School of Acting & Whitby Naturalists. Another extremely successful day with lots of people discovering what the park has to offer. Thanks to the Whitby Town mayor for being there. We are developing a close relationship with Whitby Naturalists. They held a spider workshop earlier in the year and are now becoming a feature on Pannett Day, with quiz and guided walks. We were also very grateful of the help from YBS staff.

Always ready for a celebration, we had coffee and cake on the grass by the Floral Clock in August to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the restored clock & 15 000 volunteer hours by FPP. Bothams created a fabulous cake portraying the clock in intricate detail.

The Pannett Park website is looked after mainly by Ron Wood and is always up to date, attractive and informative. It continues to receive record numbers of hits. Facebook is equally successful and recently had 1384 reaches for the post reporting the theft of two specimen trees, one extremely rare, from the Jurassic Garden. We continue to receive regular publicity in the Whitby Gazette.

I attended a meeting of Whitby Lions on 28th September to tell them about the Friends group.

Everything we achieve in the park is through partnership and I would like to thank Chris Roe and his park staff for all their hard work and the support they give to the Friends. As ever a huge thank you must go to all the volunteer gardeners.

5. Assistant Operations Officer’s Report - Chris Roe reported -

In July we received our 7th consecutive Green Flag, the “Gold Standard” for green spaces. Once again we were placed in the top bracket, we are now achieving a consistently high standard. This is a very significant achievement.

Yorkshire in Bloom judging was on 5th July and all the hard work in preparation was rewarded with our fifth consecutive Gold award, at the award ceremony in York in September. The park was also judged as part of Whitby in Bloom's entry in Yorkshire in Bloom and played its part in the town being awarded a silver gilt.

We have just been awarded a £500 grant by NYCC to purchase the "Yorkshire Regiment" roses for the main terrace. In addition to having beautiful white roses we will create a permanent link to the day the Yorkshire Regiment marched into the park.

Whitby and District Lions are paying the Friends £350 towards the clock bedding to celebrate the centenary of Lions International. The Lion's colours, blue and yellow, will feature across the bottom banner of the planting and there will be recognition on the board below the interpretation board.

Spring bedding in the clock is now planted and the hyacinth bulbs purchased by the Friends will go in the formal beds next week to enhance the polyanthus.

The Horticultural sub group is to be more project focussed & will aim to be more integrated. On the first Tuesday of each month there will be the opportunity for a general chat over coffee & a short tool box chat.

Future plans are to look at the Union steps rockery and replant where needed, also to look at the lower half of the little park with the aim of tidying up this area.

The apprentice, Lewis Holloway, left after a short time. We now have Richard Trotter who appears to be enjoying his time with us. He has made a good start & is working hard.

The Team we have work superbly well together and this is reflected in the accolades the park gets. Thanks to everyone for their hard work, help & support.

6. Volunteer Gardener's Report - Gill Wood reported -

Notes from a Volunteer Gardener July 2016 - October 2016

July. The Yorkshire in Bloom judging route was prepared to a very high standard, & looked superb. Later in the month work was carried out in Jubilee Gate border & Union Steps. Climbers were tied in throughout the month, herbaceous borders & roses dead-headed. Perennial geraniums were cut back to promote a second flush of flowers. The Rose Garden & bedding display were weeded & beds edged off. An area below the Commemorative Garden was tidied.

August. Suckers were removed from Cornus mas & sheets of goose grass were sought out & removed. The Community Garden, dahlia bed & Lily Pool were weeded & watered where appropriate. Jubilee Gate border was tidied & roses dead-headed throughout. Peony steps, Harry Eatough's rose bed, Jurassic Garden & Commemorative Garden were weeded. Climbers were tied in regularly. Polystyrene beads were removed from the Lily Pool & weeding carried out in Jurassic Garden.

September. Edging off of the main drive was carried out, also dead heading of roses. Climbers were checked & St. Hilda's Terrace border (upper end) given a good going over. Towards the end of the month work started on pruning Lavandula & clearing herbaceous planting where it had gone over. We were delighted to welcome new volunteer Ian Hewitt to the group. A grand day out was enjoyed by Team Pannett representatives at the Yorkshire in Bloom award ceremony at York race course where the park received its 5th consecutive gold award.

October. Work on the herbaceous borders & rose beds continued, & more work was carried out on St. Hilda's Terrace border. Pruning of climbing roses began & bedding was pulled from the top of the embankment, many plants were recycled. The Community Garden taster bed was cleared & edged off.

Volunteer gardening hours for 2016:1043.

None of this could be achieved without partnership working with SBC.

7. Friends Events in the Park

Halloween in the Park - Wednesday 26th October, 12 to 2.

Christmas tree lights switch on - Thursday 8th December 3.30

Christmas dinner - Thursday 8th December 6pm, Penny Hedge.

8. Date of next meeting

29th March 2017, 4 pm, Normanby Room