

**Minutes of the Open Meeting of
Pannett Park (including Little Park)
Management Committee
16th March 2023, 2.30 pm, Normanby Room**

Present - Otis Bailey, Stephen Bailey, Bob Bennett, Linda Wilkins, Kath Horsley, Sue Oates, Sorrel Hinchliffe, Anne Noble, Gill Wood, Ron Wood, Cllr Heather Coughlan, Nigel Dixon, Peter Lythe, Cllr Phil Trumper.

Apologies - Richie Sanderson, Chris Roe, Linda Sims, Chris Edey, Walter Turner, Cllr Neil Swannick.

1. SBC Report (RS)

(Read by OB)

Since the last meeting there have been some great things achieved in the park. Firstly Otis Bailey, the last park apprentice, has earned a pass with distinction in his NVQ. With this success he has been taken on as a full time gardener. We now have a new apprentice, Stephen Bailey, who we believe will do just as well.

The park again received a Green Flag award and a Green Flag Heritage award, which we celebrated at a flag hoisting ceremony.

One of the new projects in the park is the Twin Rockery, which was cleared, designed & replanted by Otis, and is looking amazing.

The next exciting change for the park was the removal of the old privet hedge on Chubb Hill & Bagdale, which has been replaced by a green & purple beech hedge.

We have also added a wildflower bed, planted with annual & biennial wildflowers, near the bottom St Hilda's Terrace entrance.

Chubb Hill has also seen some rejuvenation with the addition of a newly created bed with a gate for clematis to climb through complemented by new planting such as Skimmia & Mahonia.

The last thing to mention is the Stumpery which has been approved for the pine forest. Initial ideas have been shared and materials are being collected, with work planned to start in September.

2. FPP Report (RB)

Summer 2022

The Little Park benches were removed and stored at the depot. From there they were systematically brought down to me for rot removal, pressure washing and refinishing with Osmo oil. To prevent or at least slow down future decay we had JC Fabrication make up some galvanized steel feet. All are now back in situ.

We paid the Friends of Filey Parks return visit & enjoyed a lovely walk along the cliff top.

The Owl Sculpture, which had earlier succumbed when the pear tree stump it had been carved into by Steve Iredale, fell down. Loath to discard it, we stored it up at the depot until we could work out a solution. Happily the solution came in the form of a sleeper buried end on with the owl carvings securely through bolted to it. Steve subsequently carved leaves into the visible portions of the sleeper to blend in with the original design. A small explanatory plaque has been added.

Autumn 2022

The work on the Union Steps Rockery continued. Some shrubs have been prepared for cloud pruning next year.

We had an enjoyable celebration in the Resolution to mark Otis achieving a distinction in horticulture and successfully completing his apprenticeship.

The Lily pool benches were looking somewhat the worse for wear, so they went off to Technicolor in Filey where they received a gentle grit blasting and were then treated to a generous coat of Osmo oil. They too are now back in situ.

Christmas did not go to plan last year. The Park Xmas tree went up as planned and stayed up without the major maintenance necessary the previous year. Sadly we needed to initially postpone and ultimately cancel our traditional tree lighting ceremony due to appalling weather conditions, missing out on Mrs. Roe's splendid Xmas cake. The tree in the St Mary's Church Christmas Tree Festival looked lovely, thanks to Chris & Sue. This year the Friend's E card was taken from an archive shot of the park in snowy conditions. The Friend's Christmas lunch was held at the Saxonville and proved as tasty as ever.

Winter 2022/23

We are grateful once again to Walter Turner, with help from Nigel, for maintaining the Bird boxes and reporting back his ornithological findings

The Friends' Insurance and RHS membership was renewed.

The Friends are assisting with the Bird Brain project. A treasure hunt type circuit of the park with garden bird silhouettes to link in with the ceramic bird exhibition & the various workshops & activities in the art gallery.

3. Events in the Park

22nd April - Earth Day & Bird Brain events

Sunday 7th May - Coronation picnic in the park

10th/11th June - Fossil Festival

Next Meeting

AGM - Thursday 19th October 2023.