

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF GEDLING  
COUNTRY PARK HELD ON MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2018 AT 7.30 PM IN THE  
MAPPERLEY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, PLAINS ROAD, NOTTINGHAM**

The record of attendance showed that 34 members were present at the Annual General Meeting. See Appendix I

**1. WELCOME**

Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the current FGCP Trustees, Councillors and Adam Hales, Park Ranger.

Over the year two Trustees had resigned: Charlotte Harris and Francis Rodrigues. Charlotte had resigned in April due to pressure of work and Francis had resigned last week due to personal reasons. Terry formally thanked them for the work they had done and especially thanked Francis for the work he had done with Carlton le Willows.

In September 2017 we were allocated our own part-time Park Ranger. Adam works two and a half days a week at the Country Park. It is hoped that in the future he will be able to work full-time at the Country Park. It has been of great benefit having Adam and it has made our work much easier.

Terry appealed for members to come forward to become Trustees. We needed help especially with Publicity; Media; Sponsorship.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from: Elizabeth Cwilewicz; Rob Everitt; Jean Fell; Jenny Hollingsworth; Elaine Shelton; Joyce & Peter Smith; Marian Staniforth; Jean Taylor; Mark Tyler.

**3. MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes of the FGCP Annual General Meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 were passed as a true record.

Proposed: Tony Keyworth

Seconded: Rick Wilson

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

**5. CHAIR'S REPORT**

See Appendix II Page 7

**Memorial Garden** – This has progressed well over the year: New tree/shrub planting; installation of Art Work; two specially commissioned benches to be installed February; four raised beds under the rings to be installed and planted up February/March 2018. The original plan was drawn up by Diane Moore and Graham Tavner. Terry gave them our thanks.

**Memorial Trees** – We are talking with Councillors about the planting of Memorial Trees.

**Drainage in Glades** – We have done some work to help with the drainage in the glades, but we need to hire a small trencher to continue with this work. If anyone knows of a small trencher we could use, please let us know.

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT

See Separate Report

**Memorial Garden Expenditure** - £2,000.00 had been given towards the memorial benches and £1,000.00 towards the raised beds.

**Mature/Semi Mature Trees** – These were being purchased to screen off the new developments.

**Bloor** – Adam had written to Bloors re the compensation promised for the hedge and trees pulled out without permission. He had not had a reply, to date.

**Charity Commission** – Nick explained that a copy of the Annual Return is sent to them on a yearly basis. If you visit their web site, you can see all our reports. Being a member has been beneficial – it has given us credibility.

**Co-Op Local Community Fund** – We have been selected for the next twelve months.

**Greggs Sponsorship** – Councillor Bob Collis said that Greggs also supported local charities had we applied to them? Terry replied that we had but they were not interested in helping us.

**NUM/UDM Sponsorship** – Councillor Peter Barnes asked if we had tried to obtain sponsorship from them. Graham replied that he would chase them up.

**Action: Graham Tavner**

## 7. ENVIRONMENT REPORT

See Appendix II Page 9

**Nottingham Trent University** – Eager to work on the Country Park.

**Survey Work** – Brian appealed for volunteers to do this work. Training will be given, and you do not have to be an expert.

**Guide Books** – Brian is in the process of writing guides for the Country Park. The first guide will be about butterflies.

**Cattle** – Should be coming back early 2018 once the scrapes are done.

**Local Nature Reserve Status** – This should be received February/March 2018.

The Report and Accounts were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Rick Wilson

Seconded: Graham Tavner

**Council Thanks** – Councillor Peter Barnes said that the Council were very grateful for the work the Trustees do. We are working well together.

## 8. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Terry explained that according to our Constitution each year a proportion of the Trustees should stand down, they are eligible to stand for re-election for a period of three years. The Trustees standing down at this AGM are: Jenny Fillingham; Rod Fillingham; Lynne Taylor.

They have all been nominated to stand again:

Jenny Fillingham  
Rod Fillingham  
Lynne Taylor

Proposed: Terry Lock  
Proposed: Brian Osborne  
Proposed: Terry Lock

Seconded: Brian Osborne  
Seconded: Terry Lock  
Seconded: Rick Wilson

It was proposed that they should be reappointed.

Proposed: Terry Lock

Seconded: Brian Osborne

Carried Unanimously

Terry asked if anyone else would like to volunteer to become a Trustee. He gave a brief description of the work involved.

The following members came forward:

Helen Aplin  
David Marson  
Dion Wright

Proposed: Tony Keyworth  
Proposed: Rod Fillingham  
Proposed: Terry Lock

Seconded: Graham Tavner  
Seconded: Brian Osborne  
Seconded: Nick Benedek

Carried Unanimously

Terry thanked the new Trustees for coming forward.

***This marks the end of the formal AGM***

## 9. GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL – PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

**GBC Agreement with FGCP** – Terry gave brief details of this agreement. A FGCP subcommittee was reviewing the agreement.

**GBC Meetings** – These were now six monthly.

**Gedling Heritage Forum** – This project would run for 12/18 months.

**Dog Fouling** – Still a big problem. Seems to have got worse in the last month.

**Dog Zones** – Adam gave details of the proposed dog zones, he is in the process of drawing up the map. There would be coloured areas on the map:

Red Zone (play area, lagoons, fenced off areas) – No Dogs  
Amber Zone (café 1899, DDA Path) – Dogs on lead  
Green Zone – Dogs can be off lead

There would be no additional posts – the small plaques would be placed on existing posts. Trying to keep notices/posts to a minimum on the Country Park. The existing maps should be updated.

Terry asked what the members attending the AGM thought of this plan. They all appeared to be in agreement.

**GAR** – Part of the Country Park has been taken off us for the GAR. GBC have said that this land is worthless. It is not! Brian has asked GBC under the 'Freedom of Information Act' why they say it is worthless. There is a formula for working out the value of land which the Forestry Commission use. Brian is looking into this and once he is ok with it, he will pass it onto GBC for their use.

**Haworth Planning Application** – This area is not on Gedling Country Park land but on land adjacent to it. Terry explained that we are looking at an environmental/ecological objection to this Planning Application. Other groups (e.g. Gedling Village Preservation Society) may make their responses as can any individual.

**Heritage Lottery Fund** – Phase 2 Education Centre. Could have multi-use.

## 10. FRIENDS – PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

**Guide Books** – Looking at producing a series on the flora/fauna.

**FGCP Park History** – Updating and reprinting.

**Café 1899** – Working with them. They already display our Park History and Membership Forms. 10% discount for FGCP Members on production of membership card.

**Bees** – Rod gave an update on the bees. They live in a very hostile environment and over the year have changed from a common honey bee and are now looking more like the British Bee which are very hardy. We were able to take- some honey off to sell this year (55 jars). The honey is of a very good quality. The bees are not there to produce honey, they are there for the environment. Anesco have given us permission to put a shed near to the hives. This will help with looking after the bees – will no longer have to carry equipment from the gate to the hives.

**Nature Trails** – The Co-Op Local Community Fund is earmarked for making nature trails (signage/statues for children).

**Bird Hide/Viewing Platforms** – On the Eastern side looking over Newark/Belvoir and near the beacon view across the Trent Valley. Could be dual use – one side viewing/one side bird hide.

## 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Vote of Thanks for the Trustees** – Graham Tavner proposed a 'vote of thanks' for the work the Trustees do. This was agreed unanimously.

**GAR Access** – Access into the Country Park could be difficult while the road is being built. On completion there will be a new all tarmac access from Gedling and a car park.

**Spring Lane Car Park** – GBC well aware of the pressure on the Spring Lane Car Park. Anything done on the Country Park is subject to availability of parking.

**Vandalism** – Brian said that vandalism on the Country Park seemed remarkably low. It seems to be self-policing.

**Rare Species** – Brian is working with Notts Biological Action Group and several rare species have been found.

**Brimstone Butterfly** – Brian asked everyone to be on the look-out for the Brimstone Butterfly and let him know if they see one on the Country Park.

**Ecology Management Plan** – Adam spoke of the work he is doing in the woodland. He is trying to drag as much brash out of the woodland as possible – you may see it at the side of the paths waiting to be collected. Logs are left in the woodland as habitats for insects, etc. He is trying to get as much woodland work done as possible.

**Wheelchair Hire** – Councillor Peter Barnes spoke of the wheelchair hire which was available at Rufford Park and would like to see a similar scheme at Gedling Country Park. Terry explained that this was too big a venture for the FGCP to take on. GBC were investigating the possibility of offering such a scheme.

**Disabled Laybys** – Any new benches put in on the Country Park will have a layby for wheelchairs.

**Disability Audit 2018** – This is being done by GBC.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

## APPENDIX I

### FRIENDS OF GEDLING COUNTRY PARK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2018

#### ATTENDANCE LIST

|                  |         |               |         |
|------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Nick Benedek     | Trustee | Brian Osborne | Trustee |
| Jenny Fillingham | Trustee | Graham Tavner | Trustee |
| Rod Fillingham   | Trustee | Lynne Taylor  | Trustee |
| Tony Keyworth    | Trustee | Rick Wilson   | Trustee |
| Terry Lock       | Trustee |               |         |

Councillor Peter Barnes  
Councillor Sandra Barnes  
Councillor Bob Collis  
Councillor Gary Gregory

Adam Hales, GBC Park Ranger

Helen Aplin  
Julian Best  
Brian Cluff  
D Colyer  
K Everitt  
G Everitt  
Daniel Green  
Joan Hodges  
Ron Hodges  
Frances Lock  
David Marson  
Diane Moore  
Peter Moore  
P Orme  
Jason Pound  
Francis Rodrigues  
Dallas Simpson  
Helen Simpson  
Alex Staniforth  
Dion Wright