

**Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Friends of Gedling Country Park  
held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Gedling Civic Centre**

**Present:**

Terry Lock (Chair for the meeting), Cllr Peter Barnes, Cllr Sandra Barnes, Janice Yelland — Sutcliffe, Martin Holmes, Debbie Truman, Diane Moore, Peter Moore, Nick Benedek, Roy Brown, Cllr Lynda Pearson, Cllr Bob Collis, John Lynch, Brian Osbourne, Jeff Brooks, Anne Brooks, Hazel Gascoyne, Charlotte Harris, Graham Tavner, Francis Rodrigues, Frances Lock, Maureen Logan, Jackie Loftus, Jenny Fillingham, Rod Fillingham, Kira Besh, Ali Barr, Louisa Thirsk, Mark Tyler, John Donnelly and Cllr Muriel Weisz

**In attendance:** Laurence Quirk, Gedling CVS; Jane Richardson, Gedling Borough Council;  
David Wakelin: Gedling Borough Council

**Apologies:** Lynne Taylor and Rick Wilson

**Welcome from Cllr Peter Barnes**

Item	Notes
1	<b>Welcome from Terry Lock (acting Chair for Meeting) — thanks to Laurence and Jane for all their hard work and support also to all the Gedling Councillors for their support and commitment to get us to this point.</b>
2	<b>Purpose of meeting - to consider and accept the proposed constitution, elect trustees and receive updates on issues affecting the park</b>
3	<p><b>Adoption of constitution</b></p> <p>Laurence walked through the draft and responded to questions raised. It was noted that there were corrections and proposed amendments were debated and considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 6.1 - Spelling mistake - should read "First" not "firs"</li> <li>• Section 6.6 - Missing words - should read "elect between 6 and 10 trustees"</li> <li>• Section 6.2 - It was pointed out that 25% of membership could be considerable - the Proposed change was to be at least 20 members present at AGM.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liabilities of Trustees - Laurence responded that the group can take out Trustee Liability Insurance in addition to Public Liability Insurance cover. To be resolved by trustees and reported back to next FGCP full meeting</li> <li>• Membership fees. Would this put off some people and what is the benefit? Laurence noted that the fee needs to be discussed by the Management Committee, but it offers a way for the group to generate a small income and in return members would be kept informed of activities, developments and events. To be resolved by trustees and reported back to next FGCP full meeting.</li> <li>• Gift Aid can it benefit the group? Laurence noted that it could but advised the group to talk to Community Accounting Plus as this body provides financial support and advice to community groups. To be resolved by trustees and reported back to next FGCP full meeting</li> </ul> <p>Terry invited someone to propose the adoption of the constitution subject to the minor</p>

changes. Proposed by Francis Rodrigues and Seconded by Janice Yelland-Sutcliffe. Majority accepted and Constitution adopted.

4.	<p><b>Election of trustees</b></p> <p>Laurence read details of the nominations. These included: Terry Lock, Rick Wilson, Jenny Fillingham, Rod Fillingham, Brian Osbourne, Jackie Loftus, Charlotte Harris, Lynne Taylor, Diane Moore, Francis Rodrigues and Nick Benedek</p> <p>Terry invited others to express an interest in joining the committee. Graham Tavner noted his interest. Laurence noted how the committee had a spread of geography around the park site and also the broad range of interests. Terry asked members if they would agree to an initial committee of 10 plus 2 co-optees. He asked for a proposer for the committee. Proposed by Jeff Brookes and Seconded by Cllr Lynda Pearson</p> <p>Terry asked that the trustees as elected could meet immediately after the meeting to set up its first full meeting.</p>
5	<p><b>Opportunities for involvement</b></p> <p>Jane shared with the group, the potential areas for involvement in the Country Park. Discussion focused on a wide range of issues such as environment/conservation and heritage. Janice noted the benefits of a Forest School.</p>
6	<p><b>Update of progress on site. Presentation by Jane Richardson, Gedling Borough Council</b></p> <p>Jane outlined the current programme of works on site and estimated timetable for completion. She noted the Landscape and Wildlife Management which made recommendations for the involvement of 'Friends'. The ecologist has also identified two rare butterflies. One being the Dingy Skipper is only found in one other location in Nottinghamshire. Jane noted a provisional date for an official launch of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015, commenting that she hoped the Friends would be involved in planning and running the day. To be considered by trustees and reported back to next FGCP full meeting in liaison with Gedling Borough Council.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access from Mapperley Top. Cllr Peter Barnes, noted this is being investigated. Others noted potential solutions and problems. The discussion noted the Gedling Access Road.</li> <li>• Anaerobic Digestion. Jane noted that Notts County Council wants to talk with the 'Friends' to get their opinion on the proposal. Jane will liaise and make the contact known to the 'Friends'.</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport problems for small isolated communities e.g. Lowdham area where people do not always have their own cars</li> <li>• DOG fouling raised as a concern. Jane noted dog bins will be installed once the Management plan for the site is finalised.</li> <li>• Request for T-shirt/badge to indicate 'Friends' so that people can make themselves known to other's on the site.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>Date of next full Friends Meeting.</b></p> <p>To be considered by trustees all informed - No later than December this year -</p>