

# Friends of Brighouse Station

## **Minutes of 3rd Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

The 3rd Annual General Meeting of Friends of Brighouse Station was held at 'the room @ Town Hall Dental' Thornton Square Brighouse at 7pm on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Refreshments were available prior to the meeting.

**1. Members present:** 31 members and 2 joining members were present at the meeting.

**2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from 8 members.

**3.** The minutes of the 2nd Annual General Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 which had been circulated following the meeting, were approved and signed- Proposed David Woffindin, seconded Allen Cass.

**4. Secretary's report** The Secretary, Anne Cass, presented a report outlining the number of Committee meetings held last year and thanked both Kirsty and David for their hospitality. Derek Ashton, who stepped down from the Committee in September was thanked for his work on the Committee and in helping to form the organisation and has agreed to continue as examiner of the annual accounts. Beulah was thanked for her work in creating a Bug Hotel behind Platform 1 which was described by the ACoRP 'Its Your Station' judge as a 'Five Star Bug Hotel'.

Clearing the Bug Hotel area has continued and the left car park entrance bed has been professionally pruned, cleared and tidied by Grace Landscapes. It was felt that this was too big a task to be undertaken by volunteers.

The Sunday working team and many other volunteers have continued to maintain the high standards and had all contributed to the group being very successful in the Yorkshire In Bloom and 'It's Your Station' competitions. Paul's expertise on the purchasing, the quantities and types of plants, his work in the garden area, advice and assistance has been invaluable. The members willing and able to plant at the nursery were thanked and a request for more volunteers to be available on changeover days was made.

The Membership secretary has kept members informed of forthcoming events and distributed a Christmas card to corporate members and sponsors whilst an email version was sent to other members.

Following the AGM last year the guest speaker, Richard Gibbon organised an enjoyable visit to the NRM and other social events had been held throughout the year.

All the Committee, members and sponsors were thanked for their continued support as we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

The accounts had been inspected and the balance sheet was displayed on the PP presentation.

We had been very successful in obtaining grants from ACoRP, Northern and Rastrick Big Local. Grand Central have agreed to fund the car park entrance bed work carried out by Grace Landscapes.

Thanks were expressed to the four members of the Committee who have obtained valuable sponsorship from local businesses for the planters and barrels on the station. The group has RHS insurance for all working members.

It was reported that the amount in the bank showed a healthy balance to carry forward to the next year and grateful thanks were expressed to Norman Kemp for keeping the accounts in order and Derek for inspecting them.

### **6. Chairman's report**

Using before and after photographs, David demonstrated the amount of work carried out throughout the year. A total of 592 working hours had been logged which did not include time watering and dead heading

each week. DW DJ and PM were thanked for watering the plants on a regular basis and the Grand Central Ambassadors for watering on Sundays.

Brendan Mowforth, who judged our Yorkshire In Bloom entry and is also Chairman of Yorkshire in Bloom made a comment that the Brighouse Station floral displays were one of the best in the country. The good choice by the planting committee of the yellow pansies in the planters has meant that they have continued to grow well, despite the adverse weather conditions experienced. A metal shed had been installed under the ramp on Platform 1 and it is now storing equipment, planter inserts, compost etc. A wooden fence to separate our working area from trackside in the area on the corner of Railway Street and Gooder Lane had been built and a mixed beech hedge has been planted adjacent to it by the Sunday working team.

Maintenance of those areas already cleared will continue in the coming year. The car park entrance bed has been planted with polyanthus following the pruning before Christmas.

Plans for future work was outlined which includes improving the area surrounding the bike sheds and Northern have agreed to fund Brighouse Town Maps on both platforms.

## **7. Election of Officers**

The three officers of the group, David Bedding, Norman Kemp and Anne Cass are eligible for re-election, the appointments were taken 'en bloc'.

Proposed by: Paul Marshall

Seconded by: Allen Cass

The General Committee Members willing to continue next year are:

David James, David Woffindin, Kirsty Hodgson, Paul Marshall and Beulah Shaw, the appointments were taken 'en bloc'.

Proposed by: Alan Whittel

Seconded by: Richard Armitage

## **The Annual General Meeting closed at 7.45pm. Members had donated prizes for the raffle.**

Chris Helme, a local Historian gave an illustrated presentation entitled: "Brighouse at Work" based on his new book. He explained how Brighouse had developed as a manufacturing town from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and still employs many workers today. The talk was well received by those present.

Signed .....

Date.....