

Friends of Brighouse Station

Minutes of 2nd Annual General Meeting held on 2nd March 2017

The 2nd Annual General Meeting of Friends of Brighouse Station was held at Brighouse Rest Centre, Park Row at 7pm on 2nd March 2017.

- 1. Members present** 21 members, 3 joining members and 2 sponsors were present at the meeting.
- 2. Apologies for absence** Apologies were received from two members.
- 3.** The minutes of the 1st Annual General Meeting held on 20th November 2015 were approved and signed- Proposed David Woffindin, seconded Kath Woffindin.
- 4. Secretary's report** The Secretary, Anne Cass, presented a report outlining that through increased sponsorship from local businesses, ACoRP and Grand Central the group had been able to almost double the number of planters and barrels at the station.

Paul Marshall's expertise in sourcing the plants and the many individual members who had assisted in planting, watering and working at the station had all contributed to the group being very successful in the Yorkshire In Bloom and 'It's Your Station' competitions. In the Yorkshire in Bloom 'In Your Neighbourhood' category we were awarded an Outstanding award- which is the highest and we were also presented with a certificate of 'Yorkshire Rose Discretionary Award' for a Small Community. This award, one of only two given out in 2016, is based on the judges own recommendations. A Gold certificate in the ACoRP (Association of Community Rail Partnerships) National Competition was also awarded and we achieved third place in the 'Small Projects' category. A very successful year!

Two members who had resigned from the Committee were thanked for their contributions during their term of office. The rest of the committee had continued to work as a team to maintain the high standards required to achieve the awards.

Arriva Rail North were awarded the new franchise in 2016 and the group will continue to maintain a good working relationship.

- 5. Treasurer's report** Norman Kemp reported that the accounts for the year had been inspected. A slight adjustment had been made and the amount in the bank showed a healthy balance to carry forward to the next year. Although Grand Central had generously supplied extra planters and inserts for this year, the amount was not shown in the accounts.

- 6. Chairman's report** In his report, David Bedding said how delighted the group had been to receive the four awards in 2016. The application for Yorkshire in Bloom 2017 had now been made and the plants group had already been chosen and ordered for the spring planting.

The total of working hours logged during the working days and extra visits by volunteers were in excess of 645. Roy and Beryl Shakespeare and John and Maria Sheperson were mentioned as looking after different gardens areas throughout the year and were thanked for all their efforts. The GC Ambassadors had watered the planters and barrels whilst at the station on Sundays.

The next projects were mentioned and included to the left of the car park entrance, the area near the ramp on Gooder Lane and planting of perennials behind Platform 2. It is hoped that a storage shed may be erected behind Platform 1. A group from the scouts had visited on 7 working Sundays during the year and talks are on - going to decide their next project. Connor Michaels, Scout Youth Commissioner, is eager to continue to support and work alongside FoBS and the Scouts had received a grant from Grand Central to purchase some equipment.

Northern have plans to improve the shelter provision, install ticket machines and provide a staff hut for the partial manning.

7. The 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 Graham Ward, Seconded David Woffindin. All in favour.

The General Committee members Derek Ashton, David James, Paul Marshall, Beulah Shaw, Kirsty Waterhouse and David Woffinden are willing to stand for a further year and their appointments were taken en bloc. –Proposed Ian Wilson, Seconded Allen Cass. All in favour.

8. Subscription rates

The Committee suggested that the subscription rates for 2017 would be:

Member	£5
Corporate	£10

Proposed Margaret Ellis Seconded Allen Cass. All in favour.

The meeting closed at 7.45 and refreshments were served. Northern provided a weekend Family Rover ticket as 1st prize in the raffle. Members had kindly donated other prizes.

Following the AGM Richard Gibbon the former Head of Engineering at the National Railway Museum presented an interesting and humorous talk '**It shouldn't happen to an Engineer**'. His talk which included some illustrations was well received by all those present.

Signed.....

Date.....