

Friends of Brighouse Station

Bringing new life to Brighouse Station

Secretary's report 2020

Following our successful 2019 AGM held on 10th March 2020, the country was placed in a lockdown situation which we had never experienced before. The committee meeting planned for 16th April 2020 was cancelled. However, the Committee was kept informed via email of any work which needed to be done.

Arrangements to receive the summer plants at Manor Heath had to be revised and Paul fortunately negotiated that those working at the Nursery would be able to deal with the plants, plant up the planters and their assistance was much appreciated. Dates for the changeover of planters was organised via email and volunteers could work socially distant on each platform. Garden areas were also planted and everything was completed by end of May. I must thank all the volunteers who gave their time to achieve another brilliant floral display at the station.

Northern introduced a key worker timetable on Tuesday 24th March meaning passenger numbers were much reduced and the car park was often empty each day. The group was informed that as from 15th June 2020 face coverings should be worn when working on the platforms. A team watered on Sundays as Ambassadors were not working and the dead heading team were staggered to ensure social distancing rules were maintained.

In August several members met for a Zoom meeting for ACoRP 'Its your station' Competition entry and we were awarded 'Silver'.

The winter plants arrived at Manor Heath in late August and all the planting was done by them again. A site meeting regarding the area behind Platform 2 was held in September but that project had to be put on hold until normal working Sundays could be resumed.

Phil Sheard (Station Delivery Manager - East Region) and Dean Howard, our new Station Manager visited the station at the end of September. They reported that a TVM would be installed and on 20th October it finally appeared on Platform 1.

In October the plant committee chose next summer's plants via an email discussion and the plants were ordered.

Christmas cards were prepared and sent to all FoBS members electronically.

Despite the difficulties of the Committee not being able to meet, the station has remained a bright and pleasant place to be. Although there were very few passengers those visiting the station and railway staff have appreciated our efforts this year.

On behalf of all the members, I would like to thank all the Committee for their work throughout a very trying year and all the volunteers who have given their time.

Anne Cass 2021