

Friends of Brighouse Station

Minutes

of 4th Annual General Meeting held on 30th January 2019.

The 4th Annual General Meeting of Friends of Brighouse Station was held in the Conference Room at St John the Divine Church Gooder Lane Brighouse at 7pm on 30th January 2019.

- 1: **Members present:** 22 members were welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman.
- 2: **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from 5 members.
3. The minutes of the 3rd Annual General Meeting held on 26th February 2018 which had been circulated following the meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.
Proposed David Woffindin, seconded Roger Ellis

4: **Secretary's Report:** The Secretary, Anne Cass, reported that the Committee had lost a valuable member when Norman Kemp died in June 2018. He had served as Treasurer from the founding of the group in December 2014. In July we welcomed Margaret Marshall who volunteered to act as Treasurer. Seven Committee meetings were held last year and thanks were expressed to Kirsty and David for their hospitality. Paul Marshall had produced a useful Plant Maintenance Schedule. The plant committee had chosen the summer plants in March and amazingly they had withstood the very hot conditions during the summer months thanks to the Ambassadors who watered on Sundays and Paul Marshall, David Woffindin & David James who watered mid-week. David James was thanked for his work in developing the website which was launched in August. It is an excellent platform to inform members and the general public of the work being done. The group had been successful in achieving the highest awards in both ACoRP and YIB competitions and a National Certificate of Distinction was presented to the group by the RHS. The Sunday working days have continued successfully and during the summer two mid-week evenings were trialled. Although we did not get many more members attending, a lot of clearing and tidying was done by the team in time for the judging.

In October the Chairman had entertained a group to a luncheon at Meze and some members had visited Glossop and Dumfries Stations to see how their garden areas were developed and maintained.

Contractors working at the station for 3 months at the end of 2018 to extend both Platforms meant disruption to some work which was planned by the group. However, during the year much progress has been made and the many positive comments received from the travelling public and members of Northern Rail staff has been extremely pleasing and rewarding for the **Friends of Brighouse Station.**

5. Treasurer's Report:

Margaret Marshall, who was pleased to volunteer to take over as Treasurer, presented her report and thanked Derek Ashton for his time in inspecting the accounts.

In 2018 we were successful in obtaining a grant from Arriva North and the Grand Central grant of £888 was used to finance the Grace Landscape bed in the carpark, the work having been completed in December 2017.

Thanks must go to the Committee members who have obtained a substantial amount of sponsorship from local businesses for the planters and barrels on the station. The balance carried over into 2018 was £2172.75 and the balance to be carried over in to 2019 is £4293.66. The bedding plants for summer 2019 were paid for in November 2018 as all bedding plants are ordered 6 months ahead of their flowering season. The present balance plus 2019 membership and potential sponsorship should result in a good amount of funds to carry forward the good work and make more improvements during the coming year.

5: Chairman’s Report

The chairman reported that 17 members had attended some Sunday sessions and a total of 684 hours had been worked at the station during the year to maintain the planters, barrels and the garden areas. Brighthouse Scouts with Supervisors had attended on 3 working Sundays. We had been fortunate to receive time from 3 Network Rail managers who dedicated one of their allowed ‘volunteering days’ to help us at Brighthouse.

The Outstanding Award achieved in the YIB It’s Your Neighbourhood Competition and the RHS National Certificate of Distinction for continued excellence had been presented at the YIB event in September. ACoRP shortlisted the Bug Hotel area in their small projects category but we were not successful this year although we did achieve a Gold in the Its Your Station competition.

Rotary has donated more crocus corms which had been planted in the various garden areas. The chairman showed the members the website developed by David J and encouraged them to look at the contents. The minutes of the AGM will be added in due course. Photographs showing the new Platform extensions, the new site of the Bug Hotel and the new slate bed were shown. Sponsors for the Grace bed are required as are volunteers to look after the two entrance beds. A new working ticket machine is now on Platform 2 (as of 30.01.19).

6: Election of Officers

The Officers of the Society, Chairman, Secretary, are eligible for re-election.

David Bedding – chairman

Proposed by: June Harding

Seconded by: David Woffindin

Anne Cass- Secretary

Proposed by: Allen Cass

Seconded by: June Harding

Treasurer

The group were saddened that Norman Kemp, the Treasurer, died in June 2018, We acknowledge his work in helping to set up the group initially.

Margaret Marshall volunteered to take on the role of Treasurer.

Proposed by: Beulah Shaw

Seconded by: Alan Whittel

An additional Committee member was suggested- Richard Armitage

Proposed : David Bedding

Seconded by : Beulah Shaw

Proposed by: Roger Ellis

Seconded by: Allen Cass

The General Committee Members willing to continue next year are:

David J, David W, Kirsty, Paul, Beulah.

Appointments taken ‘en bloc’

7: Subscription Rates

The Committee proposes that the subscription rates for 2019/20 will be:

Member: £5

Corporate £10

8: Annual General Meeting Closed at 7.45 and refreshments were served.

After the AGM, David Bedding, Chairman outlined the next steps for the Friends of Brighthouse Station.

Signed Date.....