

# **FRIENDS OF WOODTHORPE GRANGE PARK**

## **Notes of Annual General Meeting held on 9 October 2024**

### **Attendees**

#### **FoWGP**

Barbara Coulson  
Peter Wood  
Matt Wilson  
Linda Wood  
Paul Swift (Chair)  
Derek Stafford  
Bill Shipston  
Helena Shipston  
Derek Stafford

#### **NCC**

Hilary Thrumpston  
Jane Barton

### **Agenda**

#### **Item 1 – Welcome to new members**

Paul welcomed all members to the meeting.

#### **Item 2 - Apologies for absence**

Janet Grimley  
Anne Spalton

#### **Item 3 – Remarks by Chair**

Paul advised that he had recently retired and saw an opportunity to relaunch the group, with the option of moving meetings to a different date/time to encourage attendance and additional members (see Item 5 below).

#### **Item 4 – Election of Committee Members for 2024-25**

The following members were re-elected by the group for the coming year:

Paul Swift – Chair  
Peter Wood – Vice-Chair  
Matt Wilson – Treasurer  
Derek Stafford – Minute Secretary

There were no nominations for Membership Secretary and Paul agreed to undertake this on a temporary basis pending any future nominations for the position.

#### **Item 5 – Other Business**

Altering the times of FOWGP meetings

Following discussion, it was agreed that future meetings should commence at 2.00 pm on Friday afternoons, with the meetings continuing to be held on a quarterly basis.

Train sculpture

Matt proposed that as the group had the money to support the restoration work and that a quote had been received to deliver the work, this should now proceed as soon as possible. He proposed that payments be made in phases e.g. initial payment to secure materials followed by subsequent payments during process to completion. Hilary advised that she could arrange this.

New gravestone

Paul advised he had sought quotes from two suppliers regarding the supply of material and implementing the work. Peter advised that he could also try some contacts and also asked whether the old gravestone could be replaced and a small garden constructed around it. Hilary advised that this could be supported.

Other matters

Bill asked when the final grass cutting in the park would be undertaken. Jane advised this would be dependent on weather conditions.

Peter asked what the situation was the sunken rose garden. Jane advised that the maintenance of this area was dependent on volunteers and as other priorities allow, emphasising that staff resources are significantly lower than previously.

Barbara referred to the new path around the park and how well used and received it was by members of the public.

Helena asked whether anyone from the group had attended the recent Open Spaces Forum. Although no-one had been able to attend, Jane advised that it was well attended, including by the recently appointed new park ranger, who has a woodland management specialism.

Jane advised the group that she now had a broader role within Greenspace and Natural Environment at NCC, which includes community engagement as well as communications and marketing.

Peter advised that he would be leading a tree walk in the park at 1.30 pm on Wednesday 16 October.

Paul advised that he is looking to organise a parish walk around Sherwood, inspired by the annual 1845 Enclosure Walk between Victoria Embankment and the Forest Recreation Ground.

Hilary asked what the position was with the uniforms for the group members when working in the park. It was agreed to pick this up again at the next meeting, as Matt had needed to leave the meeting prior to the matter being raised.

### **Date and time for next meeting**

Friday 24 January 2025 2.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm.