



Friends of Rhyddings Park

Annual General Meeting

Date: 5/3/2019

Present:	Ann Warrington – Chair Robert Warrington – Treasurer Catherine Cheeseman – Vice Chair Gayle Knight Neil Mooney Rhonda Mooney	
Apologies	Teresa Lynch Emma Kearney – Secretary	
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Introductions and Welcome 2) Confirmation of Trustees and roles who form committee for the CIO 3) Chair’s report 4) Treasurer’s report 5) Members Feedback 6) FoRP Meeting Schedule 2019 7) AoB 	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
1	Introductions and Welcome	
2	Confirmation of Trustees and roles who form committee for the CIO Ann Warrington – Chair Emma Kearney – Secretary Catherine Cheeseman – Vice Chair Robert Warrington – Treasurer No resignations received. No time limit of trustee role	

Chair's report

Over the last 12 months, so much has happened in the park, let's reflect on our key priorities we set in February 2018

Our key priorities for the previous 12 months are:-

- 1) **Continued support of the council in the development of our park** – we have continued to work closely with HBC, attending all the Rhyddings Park Steering Groups, meeting Councillors, providing information and feedback as required by the grant.
- 2) **Continued fundriasing to facilitate activity in the park** – as the Coach House opened, we had a small amount of money to assist us in delivering an activity programme, in the first 7 months we have used only a ¼ of the money – most activities in the Coach House are self sustaining or income generating – this is essential in maintaining the programme beyond the life of the project.
- 3) **Continued efforts to ensure the community are engaged, ensuring best possible communication and information sharing** – we have used Facebook, the website, twitter, noticeboards, meetings to share information and gain feedback via guest book / feedback forms. The café has been a place that has developed into a community hub where information is shared.
- 4) **Continued support to develop the audience participation plan, ensuring the park is accessible for all and used by all** – the activities delivered as part of the project by FoRP include: Opening week back in August saw kids fun, kids photography, cheese & wine evening, ossy proms, outdoor theatre, sensory play, sports for the children with additional needs, zen yoga, watercolours and bootcamp.

Since then we have continued with Zen Yoga, introduced QiGong, continued with Watercolours, have had further outdoor theatre.

We have had Santa's Park Surprise, Carols by Candlelight, Tapas Nights, Lancashire Day celebration, World Mental Health Day, International Men's Day Pie n Laughs.

We have supported Alzieher's Society with a walk to raise funds, Pudsey and BBC Children's in Need, Elf Day (lunch and film), British Heart Foundation.

It is the view of the Trustees that we have achieved our key priorities set last year.

2018 saw the FoRP realise and be part of the project to bring redevelopment to the park, including the outdoor performance area, the kitchen garden and the coach house.

The Coach House is leased to the friends, Ann is the building manager.

The FoRP opened the café in August, Ann is the registered café manager with HBC – not really knowing what would happen – very quickly the weekends became very busy with breakfasts. The café achieved 5 star rating hygiene rating with HBC.

The café is dog friendly and all people friendly – everyone is welcome.

We work hard to ensure dietary needs can be catered for, that the café is accessible for all and low cost (enabling families to have lunch or breakfasts together)

The FoRP café workers are volunteers and are limited in what they can do in terms of extending opening hours – however, since January 2019, we have managed:-

- Extend weekend opening hours
- Introduce Monday opening

Additional activities are supported by the café opening, these include:-

- Sport walking
- Parent & Baby Meeting Place
- Day time yoga

Spring time will see new café opening hours – Saturday & Sunday 10am – 2pm and Monday 10am – 2.30pm. School Holidays we will also be opening on a Wednesday.

With our partners, the Civic, we have had some factastic events – we particularly enjoyed the Wiazrding Workshops.

We have enjoyed working with Kay from Karma Minds and Bernie from Yoga with Bernie – to deliver a range of well being activities – offering well being days and stress & anxiety management support group.

We have introduced Children's Parties – low cost / DIY options.

ForP Oddy Women of the Year will see its reception & awards evening on 29th March 2019 – we look forward to celebrating the amazing women of Oswaldtwistle.

We will be holding volunteer information sessions to assist in developing our ForP volunteer army – in total since opening

Month	Cafe	Back Office	Event support
August 2018	140 hrs	76 hrs	16 hrs
September 2018	80 hrs	44 hrs	31 hrs
October 2018	95 hrs	44 hrs	32 hrs
November 2018	185 hrs	70 hrs	54 hrs
December 2018	205 hrs	56 hrs	40 hrs
January 2019	180hrs	56hrs	32hrs
February 2019	175 hrs	56 hrs	40 hrs

Our key priorities for the next 12 months are:-

- 1) To maintain and sustain the activity programme
- 2) To continue to work with the community to ensure they direct and drive the work we do
- 3) To continue to work with partners in the project – we are very much looking forward to cooking the fresh park grown vegetables in the café
- 4) To grow the café and develop it as a community hub

The events are page on Facebook and latest news on the website will inform of events planned for the next 12 months, regular & bespoke events

www.friendsofrhyddingspark.com
<https://www.facebook.com/RhyddingsPark/>

We are extremely grateful for all the support from our volunteers and the community as a whole – one word – EPIC !

4

Treasurer’s report

Friends of Rhyddings Park
 CIO No: 1175682

The charity has operated successfully as a CIO (charitable incorporated organisation) for the last 12 months under the stewardship of the Trustees and the help of the volunteers.

The charity has raised funds from organising a number of successful events which have been well attended. It has also supported many

	<p>local businesses who have utilised the Coach House to provide recreational and other classes of benefit to the wider community.</p> <p>The thriving community cafe run by Ann and staffed by volunteers has raised funds for the benefit of the charity. This has been a most welcome addition.</p> <p>Further funds have been raised by holding raffles and other competitions throughout the year.</p> <p>The charity is a not for profit organisation and all funds raised have been used in furthering the charity's objects. The services of all trustees and volunteers have been provided on a voluntary basis for no remuneration.</p> <p>The trustees are grateful for the support of Hyndburn Borough Council through their financial assistance in delivering the activity programme. The charity has utilised approximately 25% of these funds in the first 7 months.</p> <p>The charity is in stable financial position with sufficient funds for its current needs.</p> <p>The charity does not own any significant assets. The Coach House is leased to the charity by Hyndburn Borough Council for a nominal rent.</p> <p>The charity has no creditors or liabilities.</p> <p>The year end of the CIO was 31 October 2018. Accounts are not yet available but will be produced in the next month with all Charities Commission filings to be made shortly afterwards.</p> <p>The charity will be seeking HMRC recognition in the near future which will allow it to benefit from Gift Aid in respect of donations to the charity.</p> <p>The trustees expect the charity to continue to be in a position to continue its work for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>We are grateful to all the volunteers and to the local community for their continued support and look forward to a successful next 12 months.</p>	
5	<p>Members Feedback</p> <p>Positive Feedback received from members present and via messages</p>	

	on FB / feedback sheets	
6	FoRP Meeting Schedule 2019 These will be held quarterly, fourth Wednesday of the third month, next meeting 26/6/2019 @ 7.30pm	
7	Any Other Business, none noted	