

Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station

Committee Meeting 9th May 2023 @ The Hollins.

Attendees: Richard Adams, Jim Milner, Charles Adams, Joy Edwards, Peter Burke & John Hartley.

Apologies: Mike Payne, Chris Harvey, Chris Webster & John Myddelton.

April Minutes: Apparently Chris Webster had undergone the H&S briefing, missed of listing.

Health & Safety: CH was not available, but he is to hold a H&S briefing prior to the next meeting for those who had not yet had one, 19.00hrs.

Secretary's Report: The Community Rail Week walk scheduled 24th May was going ahead, FoSBRS had 3 representatives taking part, Mike Payne, Bob Galtrey & Michael Keaskin.

Treasurer's Report: A busy month for the treasurer. The bank account change to Lloyds Bank had gone through surprisingly smoothly, this enables the treasurer to be able to keep a more regular eye on the account via online banking, the monthly statements had been arriving irregularly. Chris Wright had asked to be delisted as a signator, he is not to be replaced in the short term. The new account details will need to be passed to sponsorship and membership organisers. Income for the month had been strong, sponsorship and coach trip bookings accounting for a large part. The expenditure had also been heavy, payments for 5 x ½ barrel planters to Sweepwise, final payment for coach hire for the North Yorkshire Moors Railway/Whitby trip and payment for travel on the NYMR had been made. Further payments for new sponsor plaques, Yorkshire in Bloom entry, gardening materials, stationary and fuel expenses. There were payments pending to Beardsworths for plants for the May changeover and transfer of monies from the old bank account to the new. As mentioned at April's meeting, as it is a new tax year, fresh applications for ward forum grants could be made, members can make suggestions for consideration.

Gardening Report: On Sunday 30th, 4 of the wooden ½ barrel planters were moved to accommodate 4 of the new plastic ½ barrels being supplied by Sweepwise. Thanks to a passenger awaiting a train who aided the moving of the old planters. The new planters were installed during last week. A member of Ryburn Men in Sheds also affixed the plaque gained in the 2022 YiB awards in the subway. JE indicated that she had purchased some new Cordilines as replacement for some of the damaged/tired ones around the station. She did hope she could get a bit more assistance when she attends the station for adhoc gardening sessions. The next gardening session is scheduled on Wednesday 17th May, and the May replanting is scheduled on Monday 22nd May when Beardsworths supply the new plants.

Membership: JMyd was not available. Though it was known a new gardening member had signed up.

Sponsorship: JH indicated he had had a very positive response to his recent emailing of old and new sponsors. Shire Cruisers, FoSBRS, David Harriott, John Hartley, Sowerby Bridge Rushbearing Association and Viney Becks had all renewed the sponsorships. Rosehill Polymers Group had returned to sponsoring various planters and Toby Jackson had begun a sponsorship with the group. JH had compiled a listing of the monies raised through sponsorship since the group was formed, an average of £1300 was annually raised. The old sponsorship plaques on the

now redundant ½ barrel planters had been rescued and where possible assigned to their new planter, there were new plaques ready for the new sponsors planters. There is a good selection of planters available for any further sponsors to choose from. If any members might know any potential sponsors, ask them to contact John by email at 'jhagardener@googlemail.com'. New plaques had been made for 2 former committee members who had sadly passed away during Covid, which will be affixed to a bench in the Bronte Garden.

Coach Trip: PB had contacted the coach firm about the forthcoming trip, they were happy with current arrangements, though he will need to clarify drop off/pick up points and times. A late withdrawal from the trip has left a vacancy for the train trip between Pickering and Whitby should anyone wish to fill it. As no raffle prizes had been collected, a football card may be had to give someone a chance of winning some monies back. JH indicated he had recently been party to a trip on a newish coach company that may be suitable for future trips.

Station Environs: There had been some minor vandalism to some Cordilines, a bicycle had been stolen from the bike 'shed'. The group had also had their Yorkshire flag stolen whilst members had been working away from the Bronte Garden.

Website/Social Media: CA advised this was all upto date.

Generator: There had been no further contact in relation to this.

Coronation: The group had put up the Union flag and bunting to celebrate the Kings Coronation, it was intended that this will be taken down on Sunday 14th May (10.30am), volunteers needed.

A.O.B. There was no additional business.

Next Gardening Session: 17th May from 17.00hrs.

May Plant change-over: 22nd May from 09.00hrs

Next Committee Meeting: 13th June from 19.30hrs at The Hollins, Hollins Mill Lane. A H&S briefing for those members who had not previously been briefed will be held from 19.00hrs.

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