

Minutes of the Fairfield Association Annual General Meeting held on 17th June 2015 at the Friends Meeting House.

Present: Andrew Brennand (Chair), Mandy Bannon, Graham Brandwood, Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Ken Capewell, David Dawson, Ruth Feinberg, Glenys Ferguson, Tony Finn, Oliver Fulton, Helen Hicks, Jane Littlejohn, Margaret Masters, Sue Neiduszynska, Jane Parker (treasurer), Dorothy Phillips, Gordon Phillips, Ian Procter, Hilary Short, Mick Short, Gordon Sutcliffe, Joan Sutcliffe, Shirley Rawsthorne (secretary)

1. Welcome

Andrew welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ruth Haigh.

3. Minutes of 2014 AGM

The minutes were amended as follows:

- In the Triangle update section there is a statement that the boundary wall is sound. This should have said that it was not in any danger of imminent collapse.
- There is also a reference to FOTT having public liability insurance; however, FOTT shares its PL insurance with the Fairfield Association.

4. Chair's Report

See report at Appendix A

5. Imminent Events

Andrew drew attention to the following events:

- Open Garden 27/8 June 2015 – volunteers are required, particularly in the refreshment marquee. Mick advised that we will be requesting cakes from volunteer bakers during the next few days.
- Triangle Fun Day 4th July 2015 – Dave advised that this would take the form of a miniature Fairfield Fun Day; volunteers required.
- Apple Day 26 September 2015 – Tony outlined the arrangements for the event and invited ideas for additional activities.

6. Treasurer's Report

Jane presented her report, and explained that a minus figure in the 'income' column would be cancelled out when monies due from HLF were received. Andrew extended his thanks to Jane for her comprehensive reports throughout the year.

See report at Appendix B

7. Membership Report

Andrew reported that there were currently 264 members of the Association and added that Ruth had now stepped down from her role as Membership Secretary after eighteen years in various roles. He extended his thanks for her knowledge, enthusiasm and support which would be missed by the whole Fairfield community. He advised that he would replace Ruth as Membership Secretary when Hilary became the new Chair.

8. Election of Trustees and Officers

Hilary was elected as Chair, and Jane and Shirley were re-elected as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

9. Standing Item for Notification of third parties of change to trustees.

Andrew reported that there were no changes this year.

10. Short Flora Update

- Sue reported that the Reserve was in good condition, with 22 volunteers currently signed up. During the year, 400m of hedges had been laid, using traditional methods, tools had been maintained, and ragwort infestation brought under control.
- The arable field had been sown with wild flower borders, however, due to the cold spring it had been slow to develop.
- Princes Trust had repaired some of the footpaths in the Orchard, and costings produced for new paths through the reserve.
- It was with regret that the organisation reported the departure of the RSPB expert, Richard Storton; Mick said he was seeking a replacement advisor.
- It had been noted that there had been incursions into Pony Wood and the fields; Sue urged members to consider challenging trespassers politely when spotted.
- Sue explained that the bi-monthly FFOG meetings will continue.
- Mick suggested that the annual haymaking should be promoted as an FA public event, for which volunteers were required.

11. Short FOTT Update

- Dave reported that since the last meeting, the lean-to had been demolished and the demolition spoil had been sold on.
- Bollards have been purchased
- Two trees have been removed, and two stumps have been carved.
- Height of the wall has been reduced.
- Next year the area is to be landscaped with edible plants.
- FOTT have received a donation of thirty chairs from the University of Cumbria.

Dave confirmed that the Triangle is a designated public amenity space. He extended his thanks to Peter, his secretary.

12. Short Playground Update

Andrew reported that rotting logs had been replaced with a stone wall. Three platforms on the slides and climbing net had been replaced. He extended his thanks to Ken, who had coordinated the repairs to the equipment and to David Dawson and Dave Brookes who had assisted.

13. Any Other Business

Hilary thanked Andrew for leading the group as Chair for the last six years and in particular for his work on Fundays and the playground. She confirmed that she will assume her new role as Chair with immediate effect.