

Minutes of the meeting of the Fairfield Association held on November 29th 2007 at Whitegates, Sunnyside Close.

Present: Oliver Fulton, Simon Gershon, Ruth Haigh, Jude Naish, Ranu, Michael Sheppard, Mick Short.

Apologies: Caroline Costello, Ann and Sid Duncan, Helen and Henry Hicks, Mark Houghton, Hilary Short.

Matters Arising

- i) The bollard keys have been copied.
- ii) The nettles along the cycle path have been strimmed by the Council and Ruth has thanked Paul Cocker.
- iii) Andrew Brennand will collect the bin slats.
 - a. Simon will do a temporary repair of the play surface and will email Mark Houghton about the fill. Mick will contact Henry.
- iv) Oliver and Ruth will be our new trustees and Michael will invite Jon Barry to be a trustee of the Fairfield Association as an individual and will approach the Council about him taking on the role ex officio. If we have too many trustees, Ruth or Oliver will step down.
- v) Apple Day was a great success and raised £272.
- vi) The parkin stall at the Castle was very popular and sold out of cake. We took £206.20 and paid £36.25 for the stall. Lighting was better using Jude and Michael's strip light. It was proposed that we should also sell soft drinks and tea next year. It was also proposed that we should get a banner.
- vii) The Green Fair was also a success and raised £160 towards our funds. It was agreed that the Secretary should write and thank the prison who donated 4 decorated Christmas cakes. Michael will see if we can get some press coverage about the support we have received from the prison.
- viii) Ruth will email Stephen Hoyland about the Carol Singing.

Treasurer's Report

We have £9,682.12 in our account. Our main outgoing is £382.35 to Woodscape for slats to repair the bin.

The Borough

There is a new menu and 5p from every portion of sausage and mash sold will go to the Fairfield Association. We are still in discussion about discount for Fairfield Association members.

Membership

We now have 102 members and approximately 75% of memberships are gift-aided.

Play Area

- i) It was proposed that we should put in additional slow-growing trees to make the area more visually attractive. Simon will contact John Lambert and Maxine Knagg about the siting of these trees.
- ii) We have been offered some hawthorn and other hedge plants by the Steiner School who will plant them as a school activity.
- iii) We will have another go at repairing the gap in the hedge and pay for a fence in front of the hedge to protect the plants until they grow.

- iv) There was a proposal that we should apply for funding from Green Partnerships for a piece of public art.

Orchard Update

- i) Oliver has secured a £350 Green Partnership Award for the Trust. This has been spent on trees which will be planted on 8th December.
- ii) Wassailing Day planning is going ahead.
- iii) There have again been cows in the orchard. Ann Woods is the person to contact on the Council and a letter will be sent to Robin Loxham.
- iv) Hilary will send the Fairfield Association constitution to Marion and Andrew and offer to meet so that we can discuss the proposed merger.
- v) Tony and Oliver were involved in a visit by Willow Lane School which was an excellent occasion.
- vi) The trust is about to submit a bigger grant application and will meet to discuss this next week.
- vii) It was agreed to ring fence £500 as emergency cover for the Millennium Green.

FAUNA

There has been a meeting with LGGs which agreed that it would be in everybody's interest to proceed cooperatively and work closely together. They have decided to continue to use Georgina Peacock as their landscape architect if she is able to do the work they require and this should simplify the situation.

We now need to revise our planning application and Ann Woods will give us instructions as to how this should be done in the next few days and also let us know whether or not the paddock is part of the package that will be offered to Robin Loxham.

LGGs will serve notice on Robin in February 2008 to take effect in February 2009, but he may relinquish his rights earlier. Robin has indicated that he is happy to continue to provide grazing for FAUNA.

Communications

Oliver is finding the website difficult to edit and has complained to Darren Philips and asked him to fix various things. However, no help has been forthcoming. Michael will approach a colleague at work and ask for advice.

AOB

- ? Simon is organising a local food festival which will take place on Monday 26th May, 2008, at the Platform in Morecambe.
- ? A friend of Simon who has a slot on FM, Community Radio (FM104), has offered to give us publicity should we need it.
- ? A Quick Cricket match is being planned and LGGs have expressed an interest in being involved, Carnforth High who can also lend us kit.
- ? Michael is a governor at Central Lancaster High and we may also be able to collaborate with them in the future.

Dates of Next Meetings

- i) 7.30 pm, January 9th at Simon's House: 51, Ashfield Avenue
- ii) 7.30 pm, February 26th at Whitegates, Sunnyside Close