

Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on Wednesday, December 16th at 51, Ashfield Avenue.

Present: Andrew Brennand, Simon Gershon, Ruth Haigh, Helen Hicks, Jude Naish, Hilary Short, Mick Short

Apologies: Henry Hicks, Michael Sheppard, Oliver Fulton

Matters arising:

- i) The Towneley Close meeting with Jane Elliot and Steve Edwards from Lancashire County Council. We have not heard from Lancashire Council since this meeting.
- ii) The installation of the plaques in the play area remains on the agenda.
- iii) The Charity report still needs the Chairman's report from the last AGM.
- iv) Actions on Fun day have been postponed till New Year.
- v) Paul Cocker has agreed to see that the hedge at the bottom of the Play Area is cut and the remnants of the bonfire have now been removed.
- vi) We collected more than 100 questionnaires at the public consultation and the great majority of these were in favour of the FAUNA project. We also phoned various people to ask for help at the consultation and this resulted in a number of new volunteers.

Treasurer's Report

Income since the last meeting £216.83: £90.30 (Green Party Fair), £85 (membership), £40 (donations), £1.53 (interest).

Outgoings since the last meeting £4140.72: £2903.04 was expended from the Breathing Places grant and £1233 was spent on the FAUNA project (much of this can be reclaimed).

Amount remaining in the account is £5715.37

Contingency fund Expenditure on the Playground for each of the last four years was:

06/07 £503.73

07/08 £591.62

08/09 £189.44

09/10 £765.67 to date.

Membership report

There have been 6 renewals and 1 new membership which is in line with numbers recruited last year. It was pointed out that membership numbers is useful when we apply for grants and it was agreed that we should publicise membership in the newsletter and also thank those who help.

Orchard Update

The Fairfield Association will need to add approximately £500 to the Breathing Places grant. A large proportion of the grant has been spent on the new noticeboards and Breathing Places submission asked for £4695 towards an estimated cost of £7262 for the noticeboards and information materials. Invoices to date for the boards come to £5742.54. This figure may rise by a small amount depending on the actual as against the estimated installation costs.

One of the insect hotels, bought from the Breathing Places grant is outside Helen's house and the bulbs, also bought from the grant were planted at the last volunteer day which was a good session.

Hedge plants and bushes will be bought using a Woodland Trust grant which we plan to apply for.

Tony has checked the bird boxes and it was agreed that up to £50 should be made available for new bird boxes.

The next volunteer day will be spent planting hazel and possibly hedge-laying.

Playground report

There were no new problems to report. The graffiti removing party was assembled and removed 85% of the graffiti within an hour. In the future, we may be able to use LGS community work volunteers via Russell.

Events

Future events include: Andrew's mince pie party on December 19th (2pm to 4pm), Carol Singing December 20th (1.30pm to 3.30pm) and Christmas eve (5pm to 7pm – followed by mince pies and mulled wine at Sonia and Liams' house. Wassailing is on January 16th starting at 3 pm. An action list has gone round. It was agreed that Sam should look after the fire and the Bernie and Arthur should receive sashes. The noticeboard and Swapshop will be used to advertise these events and also the February meeting of the FA which will take place in the Friends Meeting House.

AOB A Newsletter will go out ahead of the February meeting

Next Meetings

Wednesday February 24th at the Friends Meeting House.

Wednesday March 24th; venue to be decided.