

Fairfield Association
Minutes of the meeting held
on: 18th April 2012
at: 49 Wingate Saul Road

Present: Andrew Brennand (chair), Mandy Bannon (minutes), Graham Brandwood, Oliver Fulton, Ruth Haigh (Membership Secretary), Hilary Short, Michael Sheppard, Dave Brookes

1) Welcome by the chair

2) Apologies: Tony Finn, Jane Parker (Treasurer), Mick Short

3) Minutes of the last meeting: agreed as correct

Matters Arising: Andrew has some actions outstanding: including investigating lighting, and liaising with James on the updating of Fairfield Association website.

4) Child Protection Policy

Due to County funding the playground surfacing we are obliged to provide them with policies on child protection, complaints and the environment – before June 2012.

Andrew will deal with complaints and environmental policies, and Michael Sheppard agreed to be responsible for writing our child protection policy. Michael is a qualified social worker who has written CP policies and reviewed them. He will draw from best practice, using the Charities Commission website. Graham will provide Michael with a draft document from the FOG working group's health and safety work which included CPP. To satisfy confidentiality issues, as Child Protection Officer, Michael would be the only person to see CRB forms. Andrew thanked Michael and Graham.

Oliver raised the issue of unaccompanied children at events. At public events like Fun Day, Apple Day etc, children should be accompanied by adults. Child protection policy comes into play if we take children on tours etc. We therefore need to make sure there is a disclaimer on publicity literature for events, such as "Please note, child supervision is not provided. It is recommended that younger children are accompanied by adult(s)."

5) Future Events

a) Apple Day Saturday 29th Sept confirmed – as the last Saturday of September (the usual slot).

b) FAUNA Celebration/ May blossom picnic: Sunday 13th May – lunchtime onwards
Oliver is to convene a working group. Helen will do a non-competitive activity – inviting people to submit creative work inspired by FAUNA. The postponed Easter Egg hunt will be part of the celebration, as will an RSPB tent. A banner from Community Spaces is in the post. Dignitaries will be invited. Families will be encouraged to bring a picnic but it was agreed that there won't be alcohol available.

c) Fun Day – Saturday 7th July

Andrew reported there had been a successful Fun Day meeting on Tuesday 23rd April at the Richard Gillow pub. Andrew is coordinating the various silos. A question had been raised whether the music should be in a marquee but the general feeling was not.

d) Quick Cricket – Sept 9th or 16th –booked with LGGS .

6) Freemans' Wood Appeal

Andrew said that following his letter of the Association's support for the Tree Preservation Order, Maxine Knagg the Tree Officer, had invited a representative of Fairfield Association to attend the Tree Preservation Order Appeal committee on Monday 23rd April. Mandy agreed to attend and report back.

7) Treasurer's Report

Co-op Account

Balance on 10/03/12 £59,113.71

Balance on 18/04/12 £54,148.94

Income

No significant amounts

Expenses – significant:

Peacock Design re FAUNA £1,204.56

Steve Thomson re FAUNA £ 360.00 (balance of bill)

Woodscape re FAUNA £2,470.80

Zurich Insurance £ 477.08

8) Membership Report

6 membership renewals this month.

9) Fog Report

a) Field Acquisition – we are still fund-raising, but we're hopeful we can agree a deal in the future.

b) Toolshed - Sam Edge, the local architect, is working on the planning application for the shed.

With a view to keeping costs of the toolshed down, Ruth wrote to Lancaster & Morecambe College to see if any of their building course students could help and gain practical experience from the project. Ruth received a very enthusiastic response from Mr Colin McVay who runs different bricklaying courses at the College and is keen to use the building of the toolshed as useful experience for his Level II ft students. He would have to do a site visit. A good time for the College would be end of June or October. The work would be covered under their insurance and instruction. Dave is happy to liaise with him, but doesn't think we'll be ready before October. It would need to be approved with the FOG group and Trustees would need to sign off the work.

c) Toilet: Mandy said she was contact Fairfield Allotments to investigate having a shared toilet on their site.

d) FAUNA path plan to become concessionary path (meaning it will go onto the definitive map – OS map etc). This plan has been revived by Countryside Officer Terja Wilson. She is to meet with Oliver and Dave on Wednesday morning. City Council will have to co-sign any agreement.

10) Playground Report

The Borough said they had paid the promised £250 for resurfacing costs, but it appears they have not.

Andrew has chosen a third of the playground to be resurfaced:

- i. The big swings
- ii. The little spinner with pole
- iii. Roundabout
- iv. The big stand-alone slide.

Ian Mecklenberg is to put a plaque up before Fun Day.

Ruth has investigated getting on the Rotary Club's speakers' circuit which could be from July onwards. But she hasn't had it confirmed whether we would receive any donations as a result.

Police Community Support Officer Cath Elliot's Lighting concerns– Andrew hasn't been able to follow this up yet. Hilary says now that certain lights have been repaired, it's not too dark – and we now have direct contact with Hampson Green to get lights back working sooner.

Dog-fouling. There is a poster up near the orchard put there by the City Council inviting members of the public to take part in a survey regarding dog- fouling/ behaviour. It was agreed that we should adopt a neutral position to this (see last item of correspondence below), and say that people can comment online, but for us not to take a stance.

11) Items of Correspondence

i) Tony has written to ask whether we can have our own tables rather than having to beg/borrow them for certain events. It was confirmed that we do have two tables but it would be useful to have more. Tony will buy them and we will store them in Mary Ridley's garage. We will try and get them before May 13th (FAUNA celebration).

ii) Complaint 1: Someone has written to ask whether we had had a consultation about using the stone gateposts for the signs, which we did for the orchard, 12 years ago.

iii) Complaint 2: the Gershons are very unhappy about item 2 on the council's survey regarding changing bye-laws to dog control. This is not really something we can do anything about as an Association, but individuals are welcome to comment on the proposed Dog Control orders as they see fit.

12) Facebook/website etc

Cross bay walk and FAUNA celebration to go on Facebook & website.

13) Any Other Business

Michael says our Fairfield Association website Home page needs tweaking and Oliver says James wants to look at the Home-page. Andrew to liaise with James.

14) Date of next meetings

Wednesday May 16th 2012, at Friends' Meeting House, Meeting House Lane.

And the AGM on:

Wednesday June 20th, 2012, at Friends' Meeting House, Meeting House Lane.

Both meetings start at 7.30pm