

Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 17 December 2014 in Friends Meeting House

Present:

Andrew Brennand, Chair
Mandy Bannon
Peter Callingham
Ken Capewell
Ruth Haigh
Sue Nieduszynska
Jane Parker, Treasurer
Hilary Short
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dave Brookes, Tony Finn, Oliver Fulton and Ian Procter.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed with the following amendment: In the FOTT report (Item 9) it was stated that the Council wanted access to the Triangle. It was in fact the contractors from the development over the canal who approached us for permission to access the Triangle to do works to repair the bridge approach retaining wall.

4. The new CAP and BPS

Hilary explained that she had approached Natural England, Richard Storton and BPS. She was advised that FA would qualify as 'active farmers', but would need to call the government helpline for confirmation before completing the application for the Single Payment Scheme. It was decided to put this item on the agenda of the next meeting, by which time the definitive amendments will have been published.

5. Logo

It was generally agreed that no consultation was necessary. Mick and Hilary agreed to discuss the current logo with the artist, to float the idea of a 'four seasons' theme.

6. Treasurers Report

Jane presented highlights from the report;

- Bank balance now stands at £31,197.
- Items of significant income included £1242 from sale of calendars and notelets, and £140 student donations.
- Significant expenditure included £568 for moth traps and bat detectors, and £397 for tools.

Sue agreed to store the moth traps in her cellar.

Hilary reminded the meeting that Lancaster City Council owed FA £1200, for which they expected to be invoiced.

7. Membership Report

There have been four new members since November, and membership donations have been received from six existing members. Total income from membership donations was £100.

8. Website

Nothing to report.

9. Education

Sue announced that further lectures were planned for 2015, and agreed to circulate a schedule via the secretary. However, funding for lectures had dried up, so it would be necessary for FA to fund the lectures in future. Mandy suggested that local archives held in Preston might be a useful source of information for lectures.

10. FOGG report

- It had been agreed that funds would be vired to meet the cost of moth traps, mower and bat detectors.
- Issues relating to the fire pit were currently being investigated by FFOG.
- Hilary has applied for a grant to purchase a defibrillator, and a first aid course had been sourced in Staveley.
- Andy Lee had been engaged to carry out tree surgery in Little Wood.
- Two thirds of the hedge-laying had been completed.
- The next FFOG meeting would take place in February.
- Mick announced that he was stepping down as Chair of FFOG.

11. FOTT report

- The grant from United Utilities had been chased up.
- Grant applications had been submitted for bollards.
- Dave had submitted detailed plans for the Triangle to the Council.
- Property developers had requested site-access via the Triangle.

12. Playground Report

Andrew to purchase a 'no dogs' sign. Jane reported that some of the lights at the White Cottage end of the path had failed.

13. Events

- Andrew thanked those who organised the stall at Green Fair.
- Postering for the Carol Service and Wassail was complete. Andrew agreed to contact the Lancaster Guardian photographer.

14. Correspondence

Andrew advised that he had received a note from Helen Hicks, who was involved in an art project about Freemans Wood, and had asked for a leaflet drop to coincide with the next delivery of newsletters. Andrew had advised her that this would be at Easter.

15. Website and Facebook

Andrew said that Facebook was up to date, and that he would check the website presently. **Action AB**

16. Any Other Business

Andrew advised that from February, the FA minutes would be distributed earlier in the month, due to the rescheduling of FFOG meetings.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at on January 21st at the Friends Meeting House.