

Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 21st January 2015 in Friends Meeting House

Present:

Andrew Brennand, Chair
Dave Brookes
Tony Finn
Ruth Haigh
Geoff Oliver
Jane Parker, Treasurer
Ian Procter
Hilary Short
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue Nieduszynska, Peter Callingham, Mandy Bannon.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed.

4. The new CAP and BPS

Hilary reported that FA was now unlikely to qualify under the scheme, as they did not fit the criteria for 'active farming', i.e. they derive no income from the farming activity. Additionally, our stated charitable object did not fit with the concept of farming. One option was to just update the Charity Commission "boilerplate" statement without touching the Charitable Objects. Agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. **Action AB**

5. Treasurers Report

Jane presented highlights from the report;

- Bank balance now stands at £32,004
- Items of significant income included £94 from wassailing event, £262 from carol singing and £232 from Fairfield Friends.

It was decided to discontinue use of the 'Just Giving' service. **Action AB**

6. Membership Report

The following report was received from Ruth:

Since the last meeting we have 3 new Members and Membership forms have been received from 14 existing Members. Total income from Membership donations was £110.

7. Website

It was reported that details of the 'Friends' scheme were now easier to find on the website. Mick said that he had spoken with Julia, who had expressed a wish to consolidate the FLORA and FA websites when the two

organisations have joined up following receipt of a £9k grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. At that point, it was thought reasonable that individual website pages should be allocated to their 'owners' to maintain. There was a discussion about the need to provide regular updates about events, including sightings from the blog, and volunteers' activities. Andrew agreed to post pictures from wassailing and carol service events.

Action AB

8. Education

Tony requested a link from our website to 'Flora Schools', when the FA website was expanded. Andrew advised that there would be three forthcoming lectures on the themes of Birdwatching, Archivist, and a visit to Preston archives.

9. FOGG report

- Mick reported that FFOG meetings will take place every two months, chaired by Sue N.
- White Park calves are expected imminently
- A hedge-laying competition will take place at the end of February.
- Bird numbers have been maintained during the winter months, auguring well for the breeding season.
- Equipment and display boards purchased from the HLF grant is stored in the shed. Invoices are required before the report to HLF is compiled.

10. FOTT report

- Dave advised that he had met with the contractor and the developer at the Aldcliffe Road housing development. Both had agreed to contribute to FOTT funds, however, nothing had been received to date.
- A 'discharge of conditions' form had been submitted to the planning department.
- Planners still awaiting details of the trees that FOTT intend to plant.
- Dave recently met with a chainsaw carver who may be commissioned to carve an old stump into an art installation.

11. Playground Report

Andrew reported that he and Ken have ordered materials for the repair of worn out playground equipment. A working party of volunteers will be recruited to carry out some of the work.

12. Events

- Andrew reported that the wassail event had been successful, although some of the Mummers material was deemed to have been risqué.
- Tony agreed to organise Egg Hunt at Easter. Item to be included in February agenda.
- The date for the garden party had been agreed.
- Apple Day to be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Correspondence

Andrew reported that he had received an email from the City Council, asking FA to help them with a methodology on how green spaces are preserved. It was agreed that it would be in the Association's interests to be involved, and a number of those present volunteered to pursue this by email.

Hilary advised that she had received £500 toward the cost of a defibrillator. There was a discussion about where to store the machine.

15. Website and Facebook

Andrew said that Facebook was up to date.

16. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at on February 18th 2015 at the Friends Meeting House.