

Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 20th January 2016 at the Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short, Chair
Mandy Bannon
Andrew Brennand
Ken Capewell
Tony Finn
Sue Nieduszinka
Geoff Oliver
Jane Parker
Ian Procter
Mick Short
Pamela White
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dave Brookes, Oliver Fulton and Ruth Haigh.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes were agreed.

4. Matters Arising

- Hilary confirmed that FA would not be taking part in the Potato Fair.
- Hilary advised that she had received an enquiry from Ruth Davies about a visit to Little Wood with a party of children. Tony agreed to accompany Ruth to inspect the area, an offer which Hilary said she would put to Ruth. **HS**
- Andrew and Hilary agreed to draft a final letter to the solicitors who are handling the conveyancing, which will be sent Recorded Delivery. Mandy agreed to consult a solicitor friend about the matter. **MB**

5. Treasurers Report

- Bank balance increased to £50k
- Income: Lottery grant of £9.9K
- Hilary agreed to provide a breakdown of lottery disbursements for Jane. **HS**

6. Membership Report

There are no new members this month. Membership stands at 370; Andrew said he would contact all members before the next meeting. **AB**

7. Additional items for discussion: Spot spraying in the Orchard

After some discussion, it was agreed that the new path, laid by the Princes Trust, should be spot sprayed with a herbicide to avoid the path deteriorating rapidly. It was agreed that spraying would be limited to a minimum -once a year if possible- and that we would avoid spraying when the trees were fruiting.

Following Ken's recent fall from the roof of a shed on the Gun Range, it was decided to seek advice from Michael Sheppard about Fairfield's responsibility for the health and safety of volunteers, and the associated paperwork. It was also agreed that the Fairfield Association needs to provide Health and Safety guidance for working at heights.

With respect to the buildings on the Gun Range, it was noted that the sheds were about to be renovated by our grazier, Robin Loxam and no further work on the roof was needed. It was agreed that the roofing material would be given to Robin as a goodwill gesture.

8. Education

Tony reported that Dallas Rd. schoolchildren had paid a visit to the Orchard with Julia the previous week. There was a discussion about whether 'unofficial' visits attract the usual funding and it was noted that a member of the FA must accompany the visit in order to attract HLS funding.

9. Events

Sue advised that the Volunteers' Buffet will take place at The Storey on 4th February at a cost of £8.95 per head. All FA volunteers and contributors (not just outdoor volunteers) were welcome.

Plans are being made for the Easter Egg Hunt which will be discussed at our next meeting.

Hilary will book the marquee and a portaloo for Fun Day; it was hoped that Jon Barry, the current mayor, would be able to perform an opening ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the Fairfield Association. Hilary agreed to hire rooms in Lancaster Museum for a themed exhibition on 12/13 November 2016. **HS**

10. FFOG

Sue reported that the issues of cyclists, dog fouling and control of dogs continued to persist. There was a proposal that willing FA members should sit at the entrance to the Reserve one Saturday to monitor the situation and offer guidance to cyclists and dog owners. Mandy agreed to include an item in the next newsletter. **MB**

11. FOTT

Hilary reported that the FOTT meeting had been postponed due to bad weather.

12. Playground

Andrew advised that the gaffer tape on the climbing frame will be renewed and that work on the steps on the small climbing frame would start in March. A recent inspection of the entire playground had revealed only minor problems.

13. Correspondence

- An email from Dave Herrod advised that he could no longer continue with the seasonal photography project due to ill-health. Hilary agreed to convey our best wishes. **HS**

14. Website and Facebook

Mandy said she had posted pictures of Write Around Fairfield to the website, and suggested a new 'creative' page should be added for these type of events. Mandy will contact Julia. **MB**

15. Any Other Business

- Andrew recalled that he had the takings from carol singing to hand to Jane.
- Sue suggested a Fairfield Association Quiz to celebrate our 20th anniversary which will be framed to encourage more people to use the blog. This will be circulated via the newsletter.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 17th February 2016 at the Friends Meeting House.