

Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 19th July 2017 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

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

1. Welcome

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

'Graham Skelcher' should have read 'Graham Brandwood' in the FFOG paragraph.

4. Matters Arising

- A grant of £30k has been promised by Lancashire Environment Fund towards the new footpath.
- Andy Lee has conducted the tree survey in Pony Wood has been conducted.
- Julia will continue to manage the website for the time being.
- The plan to attain Local Nature Reserve status is being reviewed.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Bank account balance is £54,933
- Significant expenditure on green path leaflets, exhibition signs, scything and equipment hire. 300 recipe books were printed.
- Income received from cake sales, recipe book sales.

6. Membership Report

There has been one new member. The question of membership fees, which was raised by a member during the AGM, was discussed. It was pointed out that we are currently committed to the present no-fee-system by our constitution. It was therefore decided to retain the present no-fee arrangement.

7. Additional Items for Discussion

- Andrew advised that he plans to write to the owner of the car which has been abandoned at the bottom of Sibsey St., giving him 30 days to remove it.
- Tony confirmed that plans for Apple Day will be the same as last year. He hopes to source a Kentish ladder for one of the games.

- It was decided that there was no longer enough time to organize Kwik Cricket this year.
- Hilary reported that Nina from Waterstones bookshop is keen to organize a 'Hay Festival' in the Orchard next year. Nina will be invited to a future meeting.
- David Edwards will be asked to repair the damaged wall at the Townley Close exit from the Orchard, at FA expense by David Edwards. The stones are currently in the shed.
- Jane requested that, when members undertake works or purchases, invoices should be presented to her for payment rather than make a claim for a refund.
- Jane said that she will investigate whether the Cumberland Building Society offered an interest account. This follows a proposal from members at the AGM that we should review our current banking arrangements. Jane will look at the terms offered by the Cumberland Building Society.
- Badges indicating the Queen's Award for Volunteers can be bought but it was decided not to purchase these.
- subject of Public Liability insurance is to be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Education

- Tony agreed to provide Hilary with feedback about the story sessions.
- The willow sculptures are in place in the orchard, and photos will be uploaded to the website.

9. FOTT

- Dave has contacted the PCSO about vandalism within the Triangle.
- There will be a sponsored walk FROM Glasson Dock to Hest Bank; participants to use the Triangle as a pit-stop.
- There will be an art exhibition at the Triangle. 20% of the proceeds will go to the FA, specifically for work on the Triangles.

10. FFOG

- Following the tree surgeon's report, Ian will arrange a programme of works on the larger trees.
- The vandalised trees in the playground are to be felled and replaced with saplings.
- There was a discussion about how best to use the donated shed. Mick advised that he was awaiting a response from Robin Loxam.
- The RSPB are to help unblock the clogged channel in Upper Sowerholme.
- The Longs Pads path has been strimmed at the request of LGGS.
- Little Owls have nested at the edge of the reserve.

11. Playground

It is expected that Andrew and Ken will undertake a series of repairs during the summer holiday period.

12. Correspondence

Geoff advised that he had received a letter from a lady who intends to make a bequest.

13. Website and Facebook

Nothing to report.

15. Any Other Business

- It was decided to defer a decision to place a Lymes Disease warning notice in the playground.
- Ian advised that the Green Forum newsletter had details of a course on grant applications.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th September 2017 at Friends Meeting House.