

Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 17th January 2018 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short, Chair
Mandy Bannon
Andrew Brennand
Dave Brookes
Ken Capewell
Tony Finn
Jane Parker
Ian Procter
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies received from Sue Nieduszynska and Geoff Oliver

3. Minutes from the last meeting

Dave pointed out that the Triangle's workshop door was broken. Mandy advised that photography associated with Christmas cards would depend on snowfall.

4. Matters Arising

- Hilary has contacted Will Griffiths, who has not yet responded to her query about the playground grant.
- An application for funds to replace the spinner was presented to Elizabeth and Richard Turner before Christmas, with no response yet.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Current balance is £55,805, including £6721 restricted funds.
- Significant income received from RPA revenue grant, Flora footpath donations and carol singing.
- Tony presented a damaged cheque for replacement.

6. Membership Report

There have been no new members this month; Andrew to contact members to confirm their details, and enquire about their current tax status. AB

7. Playground Report

Hilary anticipated that a grant for the new spinner would be approved.
Andrew reported that small scrambler net is more tape than twine and also needs replacing.
The large nets have been gaffer-taped.
Vandalism to the pole is being dealt with by Ken.
Leg on the balance bar requires sanding.

8. Education

Tony advised that Patricia Clarke is a trustee of a new charity which is designed to help disadvantaged children to experience nature.
Tony advised that he will be involved with Louisa Blundell in a schools project which is aimed at re-establishing eels in Lucy Brook. Elvers are hatched in a classroom and released into local streams under supervision.

9. Forthcoming events

Wetlands talk – 25th January
Wetlands walk 2nd February
Volunteers social – 22nd February
Easter Egg Hunt – 2nd April
Triangle art show – 5th -7th May
Triangle Spring Fair 2nd June
Fun Day, 7th July – Andrew to arrange everything except music.

10. FOTT

Back doors to the workshop to be replaced at a cost of £2.7 k, £1k of which to be met from FA funds.

11. Pony Wood Footpath

Hilary to forward all Georgina's documents to Dave. The aim is to create the new path before the nesting season, with grants claimed while the work is in progress. Ian advised that he needs 50 volunteers to plant 1200 saplings on 3rd and 10th March. Request for volunteers will go out nearer the time.

12. Dementia Friendly Status

Mick is now a dementia champion. The next dementia friendly induction is on Thursday 22nd February.

13. FFOG report

It was decided that a tools allowance of £500 per annum will be available to Ian, as volunteer organizer. All monies spent on tools will be included as expenditure on the FFOG spreadsheet. There has been some concern about poaching.
More volunteers have been promised for hedge-laying by Louisa Blundell.

14. LNR status

Geoff Oliver and Sue Nieduszynska have met with LGGS who were very helpful. They agreed to write a letter to Lancaster City Council to enable us to progress the case.

15. Website and Facebook

Nothing to report.

16. Any Other Business

- 'Charge our Street', an initiative to provide electric vehicle chargers in the Fairfield area, has sent the Fairfield Association a questionnaire. This was discussed at the last meeting and it was decided that amendments needed to be made. Mick and Mandy agreed to revise the document before the next meeting.
- Mandy has been in touch with Nigel Neil, a freelance archaeologist about the stones discovered by Graham in Upper Sowerholme. Nigel has passed on the inquiry to Peter Iles at the Lancashire Archaeology Service.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21st February at Friends Meeting House.