

Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 18 April 2018 at Friends' Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short, Chair
Mandy Bannon
Dave Brookes
Ken Caldwell
Tony Finn
Sue Nieduszinka
Geoff Oliver
Jane Parker
Ian Procter
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Andrew Brennand.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

Dave Brookes apologised for not attending the March meeting.

3. Matters Arising

Hilary reported that she had submitted the letter to Helen Ryan, which was required prior to the purchase of play equipment. A matched-funding arrangement is in place.

The final sum raised by the swimathon was £845.

Mandy to contact Nina Bleasdale about Litfest.

The Easter Egg Hunt was cancelled. Tony said he planned to run a similar event as part of Fun Day.

4. Treasurer's Report

Highlights from the report:

- Current balance £51,065, including restricted funds of £3,225.
- Significant income: E&R Wilson grant of £1300, Swimathon £845.
- Significant expenditure: Workshop doors £2,235, Peacock Design £709
BTC grant £1705, Insurance £1084

5. Membership Report

There were no new members or friends, however all donations given at Mrs Bridges' funeral have been promised to the FA.

6. Playground Report

Ken presented the inspection report. He expressed his concern about the risk of children trapping their fingers on the roundabout. He agreed to fill the rotten wood at the top of the tower. Mick agreed to trim the nettles.

7. Education

- Tony reported that three schools have booked for summer term.
- The Learning Zone pages of the website are being updated.
- Hilary to provide contact details for St. Luke's Skerton school, who had expressed an interest in visiting.
- Sue, Mandy and Ruth advised that they would be giving a presentation to the Marsh local history group.
- Sorptomists have requested some leaflets.

8. Additional Items for discussion

Mandy advised that the next newsletter will be published by 21 May 2018 and will include details of the Triangle Fair and the AGM. A new printer is being sought, following the retirement of the current provider.

Hilary advised that she had booked Room 1 at Friends Meeting House for the AGM on 20 June 2018.

9. Events

- Ian advised that he had been interviewed for Beyond Radio recently.
- Mandy reported that the residents of Anthony Road have organized a scarecrow festival on the same day as Funday. It was hoped that the events would be mutually beneficial.
- Mick and Hilary had delivered a presentation to members of Lancaster Priory Tuesday Group.
- Mandy expressed her concern that some of the archaeological finds were missing and promised to contact the metal detectorists about them. **MB**
- Prizes were required for the Fun Day raffle; the toilet and the marquee have been booked.

10. Pony Wood footpath update

- The contract has been awarded to Huddleston's, and work will commence on September 2018. In the meantime, upgrading will begin on the existing paths. Sue agreed to contact LGGS about plans for their supper run, for which they usually trim the hedgerows. **SN**
- There was a discussion about the possibility of disruption to pedestrians if the paths had to be closed during the resurfacing work.
- Hilary to email Jane with the footpath quote. **HS**

11. FOTT

- The new doors are expected to arrive soon, possibly after the art show on 5/6 May.
- There will be a summer festival on 2 June.

12. Dementia Friendly Status

Mick said he expected to run another DF induction in May. He reported that he had walked the reserve with dementia experts who had praised the hedging and the plans for the path. They suggested notices that indicated that there were no toilets; a suggestion about fingerposts raised a few concerns about proliferation of signage. Mick recruited some volunteers for a signage working group.

13. FFOG report

Conditions had proved unsuitable for the release of the barn owl.

Sue reported that Jon Carter had changed his job, and the search was on for a replacement expert to lead bird walks around the reserve.

It was agreed that the coming Wednesday volunteer evening should be scrapped, as neither Ian nor Mick were able to be there. Ian to notify likely participants. IP

14. LNR status

Geoff reported that the process is almost complete. An announcement will be made in a press release, and the forthcoming newsletter.

15. Website and Facebook

Hilary advised that members who had inadvertently stopped receiving blog alerts, following the server change, should contact **fairfieldassociation2014@gmail.com** to have the facility restored.

16. Any Other Business

Some credit was being held at Pagefast, which will be put towards the next leaflet run.

Mandy to cost a leaflet dispenser. MB

Mandy reported a trespassing incident in the Flora field, involving two men with dogs. This had resulted in the police attending. It was agreed that the signage should be renewed.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16 May 2018 at Friends Meeting House.