

## Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on 23<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Friends Meeting House

### Present:

Hilary Short (Chair), Andrew Brennand, Dave Brookes, Gina Dowding, Sue Nieduszinka, Geoff Oliver, Jane Parker, Sue Pope, Ian Procter, Mick Short, Shirley Rawsthorne (Secretary)

### 1. Apologies

Tony Finn

### 2. Minutes from the last meeting

Tony Finn included in the apologies.

### 3. General Updates

- Chair introduced Gina Dowding, who gave a presentation of her proposal to install bike parks at the bottom of Sibsey Street. This was in response to a suggestion from a local resident, who was short of space in his back yard. It was acknowledged that this would reduce the car parking availability. However, it would fit with Fairfield's support for greener transport. The discussion developed into conversation about the installation of electric vehicle charging point in the remaining space, and the likelihood of it being used by non-electric vehicles.
- It was agreed that there would be a consultation with locals, possibly organized by an external group. **Gina to draft a consultation questionnaire.**
- Thanks were extended to Carole Martin for her new format newsletter.
- The purchase of the storage boxes for tarpaulins was carried forward.
- 143 children attended the Easter Egg Hunt, raising £687.

### 4. Treasurer's Report to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Bank Balance 15.3.22 £79,777

Bank Balance 26.4.22 £79,284

#### Funds:

Restricted 1,507

General 77,777

Total 79,284

Significant income - £687 Easter Egg Hunt

Significant expenditure - £1,000 wildflower exhibition.

£710 Hudson pointing

£159 Printing newsletter

- There was a discussion about the large amount being held in reserves, and it was noted that applications for grants would be hard to justify if the current balance was maintained. Jane advised that large maintenance bills could arrive without warning, and that HLS funding was about to dry up. Ian advised that felling of diseased ash trees would soon be required.
- Some thought to be given to moving the bank account.

## 5. Membership

- Newsletter generated some response. LGGS had contacted FA about the rules regarding disposal of former school playing fields. **Geoff to advise Dave about action required.**
- No new members have been signed up.
- FA bank details will not be made available on the website, however Dave agreed to buy a card reader to enable people to make donations using a phone.

## 7. Playground

- LCC to start the tendering process.
- Several emails sent to solicitors to try and elicit details of the lease and constitution.
- Andrew to lead a Zoom meeting next week with Friends of Fairfield Playground.
- Pavlos and Fairfield Friends are holding an event in the playground on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.
- Councillor Mandy Bannon has asked whether any of the current play equipment could be recycled to Sycamore Grove.

## 8. Education

School events have restarted.

## 10. Events

- Meadow exhibition in the Storey for two weeks from 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- Open Yards – eight households interested so far. Sue N to contact Jon Barry regarding the refreshments.
- City Nature Challenge – 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## 11. FFOG report

Chanel to be dug in West Field to address the problem of the leaking pond.

A record number of Snipe present (106) including Jack Snipe.

20 volunteers present at most sessions.

Thanks extended to Keith Taylor for looking after the fruit trees.

## 12. FOTT report

- Some pointing work had been done.
- A bench has disintegrated. Replacement to be ordered from Woodscape.

## 13. Website and Facebook

Website is currently being improved.

## 14. Any Other Business

- A proposal received from Carole Martin to organize a book sale to raise funds. It was agreed that when Carole moves on, a Triangle building will be used to store one of the marquees.

- Ian noted the lack of a defibrillator. Replacement of the battery has been affected by supply-chain delays.
- There had been an enquiry from a sculptor about utilizing wood from felled trees.

### **15. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting, will take place at 7.30pm on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022, at the Friends' Meeting House.