

Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on 17 January 2023 at the Tite & Locke

Present:

Hilary Short (Chair), Andrew Brennand, Ian Procter, Mick Short, Sue Nieduszynska, Sue Pope

1. Apologies

Dave Brookes, Jane Parker, Rick Gould, Tony Finn

2. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed

3. Matters Arising

Nothing not on the agenda

4. Treasurer's Report

Bank balance	20.12.22	79,312	
	17.01.23	90,421	
Restricted funds	Duchy of Lancaster	1000	
	EJ Thompson	2500	
	LEF	-951 (not yet received)	
	E&R Wilson	2000	
	University	131	
	Play area appeal	5175	
		<hr/>	
		9855	
	Triangle	830	10,685
General Funds		<hr/>	79,736
			<hr/>
			90,421

Significant income: donations for the playground £2850 in Nov and £2325 in December; Lancaster University grant for Triangle bench £834; stewardship revenue grant £7588; education grant £1200
Net fundraising so far £3275 including £1594 for calendars and cards
Significant expenses: hay £525, electric fence battery £317; monitoring £650

5. Membership and Friends

One new member was reported this month. So, there are 405 members in total.

6. Playground

- £42,832 raised so far against the £75K required.
- Council contact is on leave until the end of January to confirm the costs and close the tender.

- Pizza event to raise funds for the playground – possibly May – Jon Hill is willing to organise and fund, would need to get council permission for an event – playground as venue in the afternoon at the weekend. Andrew to take forward.
- Press release not yet prepared but will hopefully be available by beginning of February.
- Frank Sutcliffe has repaired the gate on the roundabout. The safety surface around the spinner and the swing has been repaired by the council.

7. Education

Rick is in touch with Dr Rosa Menendez Martinez in the ecology department who is interested in research projects in the nature reserve eg dissertation students, Dung beetles. Rick will follow up in February. For field access, people need to contact FOGG.

8. Events

- Carol singing on Christmas Eve was very successful, and raised £195.55
- Wassailing on Saturday 14 January with approx. 100 people. Raised £80, but there are still bills to be paid.
- Easter egg hunt on Monday 10 April – Andrew to approach Friends of the Playground and Ian to ask Pavlos Pavli to organise volunteers.

9. FOGG report

- Winter Watch presenter from Birmingham came in January - he uses heat monitoring to spot Jack Snipe – to help establish numbers. Rushes were too long for the thermal camera, attempts to net and ring failed. Advised we have an impressive Snipe population.
- Planting approx. 100 saplings on the Eastern extension of Pony Wood.
- Horse Chestnut tree came down in Pony Wood across the path – tree surgeon Andy Lee removed the tree on the day, debris will be used to create habitat. Fence needs to be repaired.
- Estimate expected for a corrugated metal roof rather than a green roof on the shed – much of the material can remain in the shed but some machinery will need to be stored elsewhere (allotments, the Triangle). There will be a solar panel and water butt.
- Issues with electric fences – FOGG to follow up with Rick.

10. FOTT report

Nothing to report.

11. General Updates

Emergency notices drafted by Ian. Hilary to action updating notices.

12. Website and Facebook

Only Andrew can post on Facebook.

Donation button is missing on the website – Hilary to feedback and thank Julia for her work.

13. AOB

Gina Dowling has been in touch about the parking spaces by the playground – cycle lock up and electric vehicle charging point. Gina is planning a local consultation on this. Andrew to circulate the draft consultation and needs rapid feedback. Andrew will let Gina know the FA is happy for her to go ahead. Gina needs rapid feedback.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Tuesday 21 February at the Tite & Locke.