

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF THE TRIANGLE ALDCLIFFE ROAD, MEETING held on Monday 7th April 2014

Present: Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Mike Swan, Jane Swan, Gillian Allen, Martin Luke, Geoff Easton, Duncan Bell, Liz Bell.

1. Apologies: none received.

2. Minutes of last meeting: minutes of 3rd March 2014 meeting were approved and there were no matters arising.

3. Recent Developments: recent campers on the Triangle site have been moved on.

A 50% deposit from our Lancaster Green Spaces grant has been paid to Paul Martyn for the construction of a noticeboard (to be erected by volunteers by the entrance onto the canal), which we hope will be ready in the next few weeks.

A young rowan tree was planted on the site on 5 April as replacement for two poor trees previously removed, satisfying a condition of our planning approval.

4. Workshop: Dave has checked with the electricity supplier that the electricity had been safely disconnected although the supply to the unit is still live and could be reconnected if required. A protective conduit on the supply cable is needed, to avoid accidental damage.

The workshop's rafters have been de-nailed and should be measured up to cost possible plasterboarding to give some insulation and more light. Mike is painting the inside of the double doors white, also for more light.

The old workbench needs to be examined to decide if it can be renovated or needs to be taken out / replaced. Dave still to find workman to complete pointing of brickwork and rendering around single door and to find buyer for old metal security door or sell for scrap.

Duncan to look into disposal of used needles found on Triangle; and finally we need to remove rubbish and recent rubble from the workshop if it is to be open for our late spring event on 17 May (see item 9 below).

5. Site works: a detailed design plan is still needed for the Triangle to submit to the local Planning Department for their approval before further works can be started. Landscape designer Georgina Peacock is able to do this and Dave had submitted a bid to UU Community Fund to meet her costs but the bid was apparently not received and so not considered. It was agreed that Dave would make the same bid to Lancaster Uni's Wind Turbine Community Benefit Fund instead by the deadline of 14/4 and if this was not successful we would pay out of our own limited funds. The detailed plan will also assist in costing our proposals, obtaining quotes and making the sizeable funding bids required for demolition of the corner buildings, lowering the towpath wall, raised beds, 'seating sculpture' etc.

6. Site design plans: Dave will arrange a meeting on-site with Georgina and volunteers to discuss our proposals and ideas or suggestions she may have. All welcome to attend and hopefully we will have plans and sketches to show at our 17 May Triangle event (see item 9 below), encouraging public responses.

7. Finances: currently about £750 (after purchase and delivery of rowan tree), which might be needed for the detailed design work. Our 17 May late Spring event should raise further funds as well as being a publicity and consultation opportunity - see item 9 below.

8. Fundraising: Dave's United Utilities 'failed' bid for detailed design work swapped to Uni. Wind Turbine fund as agreed above. Peter, trying to make online application to Lancashire Green Partnerships Awards for tools and equipment, ran through initial list using range of costs at B&Q. This was added to by other suggestions and he will cost full list at local Lyle's Tools shop for good quality tools which will be long lasting. Typical GPA grants are around £500 with a 20% contribution from the applicant organisation on top.

9. Events: Arrangements for the Triangle event to be held on Sat. 17 May were discussed. Duncan will do the BBQ, volunteers will be asked to donate cakes, tea and coffee will be provided (flasks through Duncan) along with diluted fruit juice. Duncan and Liz will find musicians to play. The workshop will be open and hopefully display initial detailed design plans with comments slips for feedback. A largely off-road local Treasure Hunt Trail with questions for children and adults and things to collect will be available (2 double-sided A4 sheets with a disclaimer) for £2 worth of fun with a winner's prize! Dave to arrange a cash float for the day.

Advertising of the event needs to be sorted - websites, email lists, flyers and posters on the day. This needs to be finalised a few weeks beforehand and so with no correspondence or other business to deal with our . . .

10. next 'monthly' meeting was fixed for **Sunday 27 April 2014 at 2pm in the Triangle workshop** (bring a chair) and is likely to include a **volunteer session** straight after with possible noticeboard installation!