

## MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF THE TRIANGLE ALDCLIFFE ROAD, MEETING held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**Present:** Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Gillian Allen, Martin Luke, Jane & Mike Swan, Geoff Easton, Sheila Bliss, Jim & Nicola Combe, and Nick Wilkinson

**1. Apologies:** None received.

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 meeting were approved and there were no matters arising.

**3. Recent developments:** a) **Campers:** there has been a tent on the Triangle for some days with two occupants who moved away on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. voluntarily at the end of a volunteer session. It had been suggested that a 'No Camping' notice should be displayed in our notice board and after some discussion this was agreed, with the wording to be decided but including the danger of used needles and lack of a toilet on the site.

b) **Conservation advice:** Dave had spoken informally with City Council Conservation Officer regarding the exposure of part of the Listed Canal Basin Bridge and access road retaining wall following the demolition of the lean-to corner buildings. He advised that the whitewash would wear off and felt no other remedial work was required. However Dave is to meet with the C & R T's Conservation Officer on site on Fri. 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. to consider any advice / work felt necessary by her.

c) **Lean-to double doors:** left over following demolition have been taken away through Freecycle.

**4. Funding:** a) the **University Wind Turbine grant** of £720 is to cover the cost of the detailed design plan for submission to the Planning Department for its agreement. The meeting discussed the alterations made to the initial plan and agreed that the amended version (which is not 'set in stone') should now be submitted. Dave to check whether any extra payment is required for its final completion. Mike to put amended plan on Triangle website with rider that some details might change.

b) **Green Partnership Award** of £450 will pay for two wheelbarrows and two sets of garden tools. Peter has placed an order with Lile Tool Shop which should be delivered next Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct.'14.

Dave is optimistic that we should shortly be offered a grant from c) **United Utilities Community Fund** of up to £1,000 for boarding of workshop ceiling, plus small solar panel and LED lights. He will also apply to d) **Lancashire Community Fund** for the cost of the required tree work and contact Andy Lee to book this in once the additional paperwork needed is approved by the Council's Tree Officer. Peter to seek alternative quote for stump grinding if required.

e) **Jim Combe** suggested an approach be made to the developers (H2O/BLOC) of the disused site across the canal for housing, asking if they would make a donation to the Triangle project, either in funding or materials, on the basis that our work will result in an improved outlook over the canal for residents of the new properties. Jim offered to make an initial approach himself on our behalf.

**5. Finances:** Given the above grants received, and the net income from the sale of bricks and slates from the demolition of the corner lean-to buildings, our present finances total

£2,760 of which £1590 is uncommitted and could cover the cost of three bollards to prevent parking on the point of the Triangle, with a few hundred pounds left over towards other needs.

**6. Future events:** were considered but deferred to next year due to uncertain autumn-winter weather. A Triangle event next July could substitute for the Fairfield Association Fun Day which is now biennial.

**7. Volunteer sessions:** the main priority is clearing out the workshop building again, with rubble bags needing to be taken to the tip, other items to be removed, the building to be swept out, and consideration given to repairing or disposing of the old narrow benching. Outside work is mainly keeping the site tidy and applying wood oil to the notice board. Martin to see if he has any Danish oil. Treatment / painting of the pergola more likely to be next Spring.

(N.B. If we receive funding that includes the cost of boarding the workshop ceiling, Paul Speight who fitted the new windows and door has offered to do a demonstration for volunteers on how to go about this ourselves.)

**8. Correspondence:** none received.

**9. Any other business:** Peter reported that he had checked the Lottery Funding website which now advises applying for an **Awards for All** grant 4 to 5 months before the project (lowering and repairing the towpath wall) is due to start. Peter offered to make the application, Dave to obtain quotes and to make joint funding application to **Lancashire Environmental Fund** for raised beds and other materials required.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 at 7.30 pm upstairs in the Robert Gillow (opposite the entrance to the Royal King's Arms hotel). All welcome.