

**MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF THE TRIANGLE ALDCLIFFE ROAD,  
MEETING held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Present:** Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Mike Swan, Jane Swan, Gillian Allen, Martin Luke, Frances Tordoff, Jim Combe, Nicola Combe, Uschi Maden, Phil Mitchell, Gordon Walker.

**Apologies:** Sheila Bliss.

**Recent developments:**

Dave reported on the success of the postponed **Spring Fair** which attracted a good turnout on a fine sunny day and raised a net profit of £765 for Triangle funds. (Left over books for sale and cold drinks will be passed on to the Fairfield Fun Day for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 12 - 5pm).

There has been **further damage by dogs to Triangle trees** despite plastic netting and chicken wire having been put in place. Culprits have not been identified but the Tree Officer has advised putting a barrier around the base of the affected trees, though not directly onto the bark. It was agreed to use chicken wire for this purpose.

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June **Dave and Mike met with Mark Buxton the Groundwork UK representative** for this area on the Triangle site to discuss the project so far and the uses of the Tesco 'Bags of Help' funding (£10k) for our future plans. Mark was positive about our progress and even offered to join a volunteer session in the future. He will also write an article on the Triangle project for our local paper.

Our local **B&Q store** may give away some unsaleable products to local projects. Dave has put the Triangle project forward for this and we await the outcome.

Some local residents have recently had their own basic **BBQs** on the Triangle site leaving small burnt areas of grass. The provision of BBQ bases was discussed but decided against in the hope that this could be limited.

**Funding:**

In addition to our own fund raising, Dave ran through the items submitted to the Tesco funding bid.

These included:

- Materials for the construction of stone dust paths with shallow edging through the Triangle site and around the raised beds;
- Raised beds made with 'sleepers', plus lining material, good quality soil and a range of plants;
- Water butts and an irrigation system to the raised beds;
- A small portable generator for running drills, sanders, etc;
- Compost bins for composting green matter;
- Materials for work on the donated boat play feature and its setting into the ground (subject to insurance cover and safety measures - see below);
- Works to finish the lime mortar pointing to the reduced towpath wall.

We are able to start spending on these items and within six weeks should receive 75% of the grant funding into the Fairfield Association's bank account for use on the Triangle project.

**Other works:** Nicola offered to source and cost additional railings for the gaps in the towpath wall.

**Donated boat play feature:** there was much interest and discussion on this item which included a report from a local joiner who would be willing to do the necessary strengthening work and repairs to ensure the safety of the boat and how it might be securely set into the ground, possibly with rubber material around it and any necessary drainage. However it was agreed that this proposal together with the report should be put to the Fairfield Association's insurers before proceeding further at this stage.

**Finances:** Dave reported that we have about £1,800 in hand for Triangle spending but that the site may now attract business rates though with 80% relief and the possibility of claiming more, or having to pay £200 per annum. He will look further into this and suggested that we should use Tesco funding before using our own monies where possible.

**Fairfield Association Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm at the Friends Meeting House to hear reports on a range of activities and to nominate officers and trustees. Frances Tordoff agreed to attend and give a short report on the Triangle project over the last year together with Peter Callingham, Dave Brooks being unable to attend.

**Events:** Dave has had discussions with the Dukes over Light up Lancaster in the autumn, which is proposed for our stretch of the canal, and for which we may be able to provide refreshments. The possibility of selling alcohol either directly or through a licensed person was also discussed. Further investigation is required on this matter.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm at 61 Regent Street. All welcome.