

Note change of meeting place for July 16th from Thorneycroft to Whitegates, Sunnyside Close.

Minute of the Meeting of the Fairfield Association held on June 14th 2007 at Whitegates, Sunnyside Close.

Present: Andrew Brennand, Ann and Sid Duncan, Tony Finn, Oliver Fulton, Simon Gershon, Ruth Haigh, Jude Naish, Michael Sheppard, Mick Short.

Apologies: Hilary Short.

Matters arising:

- i) The AGM
- a) We agreed the new membership fee of a minimum £5 per person and £10 per family..
- b) Our officials now are Michael – chair; Jude – treasurer; Ruth – membership secretary; Hilary – secretary. We did not elect a vice-chair.
- ii) Quick cricket carries forward to next year. Michael can borrow the kit from Carnforth High School.
- iii) Steve has continued to work as a volunteer on the Millennium Green and hence it has not been necessary to pay for further work,
- iv) Michael will liaise with Jon Barry over access at Willow Lane.

Treasurer's report: Jude reported a balance of £7846.35. The transfer of signatures is in progress.

Millenium Orchard:

At the AGM we offered three new trustees to the Trust: Mick, Oliver and Simon. These people have been accepted by the Trust. Michael expressed concerns about reservations to merger which were expressed in Marion's letter. At the AGM of the Fairfield Association and also at the AGM of the Trust, the idea of a merger between the two charities was supported in principle. It was agreed that the benefits of merger, for both organisations, should be explored.

Tony Finn said that at the last Trust meeting everybody was taken aback by Marion's enthusiasm and that he was very happy with meeting. He hoped that the change would be lasting. A month by month plan of work is being put together for discussion. There are problems relating to the mower which Steve still has and Tony will contact him about returning it.

Andrew Brennand's idea of a Teddy Bears' Picnic in the orchard to raise funds and mark the arrival of the picnic table was discussed. The table should arrive this week. Oliver reported that Tim Blythe is interested in supporting not just FAUNA but also the Millennium Green volunteers by providing equipment and training. We can apply for awards up to £10,000. We should apply firstly for a monthly management plan for next year. This would identify the jobs that needed doing and also the skills and equipment needed to do them. Ruth could put in bid to Green Partnership Awards for artistic activities in the Orchard, for example a willow sculpture workshop. Michael said that the Steiner School has been working with children on the Millennium Green and that Mandy Bannon is the link here.

Playground Report

There is a plank missing from the fence surrounding the toddler play area. Sid agreed to mend it. Sid will also look at the charred wood surrounding the litter bin and see if it can be replaced and try and remove the graffiti from the noticeboard. Andrew Brennand asked if some of the nettles around the play area could be cut back.

FAUNA

Oliver and Mick have been to see Ann Wood at the Council who was very helpful about changes to our plans. Tim Blythe, from the County Council, thought that the idea of a change of use for the white farm house made no sense. He suggested we press the Council to sell the cottage to Robin Loxham in exchange for the lease. At the moment Robin is being obstructive about the tenancy and the lease and it could take years to sort things out. Jon Barry agrees with this idea and has agreed to talk to the Council. LGGS and the Council have not yet completed the land swap. Oliver will ask Charles Wilson what is going on when he returns back from his holiday. The Community Design Scheme has told us that we could use grant money to pay Georgina Peacock for work already done and use it as part funding towards her next piece of work.

Fun Day

Ruth delivered a report on the plans for Fun Day. This year there will be a programme.

Michael reported that the Borough will offer FA members a discount and there will be a Fairfield Pizza which will provide a contribution to the Fairfield Association on each sale.

Communication update

The website is now up-to-date and a counter will be added.

Date and time of the next two meetings:

Tuesday 17th July 7.30 pm at Whitegates, Sunnyside Close

Thursday 13th September, Brookhouse