

## **Minute of the Meeting of the Fairfield Association held on July 16th 2007 at Whitegates, Sunnyside Close.**

**Present:** Andrew Brennand, PJ Butler, Sarah Dawson, Ruth Haigh, Jude Naish, Shirley Rawsthorne, Michael Sheppard, Mick and Hilary Short.

**Apologies:** Ann and Sid Duncan, Oliver Fulton, Simon Gershon.

### **Matters arising:**

Access at Willow Lane: planning permission is required for the fence and gate. Once this is resolved, we will be able to apply for opening.

**Treasurer's report:** Jude reported a balance of £10,123.94 which includes a donation of £250 from the Duchy of Lancaster. The transfer of signatures is in progress. In order to transfer some of our monies to the Coop Bank we need the signatures of all the trustees, including Jules, Anna and Henry and Jude. We are currently in the process of getting all necessary signatures.

### **Millenium Orchard:**

- i) Mick, Oliver and Simon have attended their first Trust Meeting. As a result, Oliver has agreed to use part of the Fairfield Association website to advertise Trust matters. Tim Blythe is helping with bids for funding to Lancashire County Council. Jon Barry is producing a monthly management plan. The possibility of merger was discussed. Mick has put together a list of advantages and disadvantages which will be discussed at the next meeting. However, Jon Barry is not in favour of a merger. Various people at the Fairfield Association meeting made the point that both AGMs voted unanimously in favour of a merger.
- ii) The Fairfield Association will pay for the pollarding of the ash tree, which shed two branches, and also for felling the dead sycamore tree. Andy Lee will provide an estimate which is expected to come in at around £400.
- iii) The orchard strimmer has been repaired at a cost of £70 and we also paid for two slashers.
- iv) It was agreed that volunteers using dangerous implements should wear yellow vests. Hilary agreed to put an advert on Swapshop.
- v) Oliver is logging volunteer work parties on the Web and we may be able to claim funding for volunteer work as part of a successful bid to Lancashire County Council.
- vi) Jon Barry has found the key for the bollards. It was agreed to ask for a duplicate key for the Fairfield Association.

### **Playground Report**

- i) Sid has mended the fence and removed the graffiti.
- ii) PJ volunteered to ask the head of works if he could help us to set the plaques into the ground. Oliver volunteered to put a notice on the web Hilary agreed to advertise for help on Swapshop
- iii) It was reported that the nettles were no longer a problem.
- iv) PJ agreed to carry out weekly checks on the play area using Henry's checklist.
- v) There was a brief discussion of problems with difficult children on the play area which had been resolved satisfactorily.

### **Fun Day**

This was a great success and thanks were given especially to Ruth. It was agreed that the programme had been a success and Martin, from the Borough, reported that he had already had 7 large groups in with leaflets. It was agreed that the September newsletter would advertise our benefactors.

The Lancaster Guardian didn't cover the event although Michael had sent them a photograph and pre-event release.

### **Teddy Bears' Picnic**

- i) The Trust are happy to let the event go ahead. Andrew, Tony and Wes will organise the event and Simon will loan them his small marquee. A poster, advertising the event on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, will be put on the noticeboard and Mark, in liaison with Michael, will organise publicity in the local press and on the radio. There will also be publicity posters around the area. It was agreed that this would be a good occasion to enrol Friends of the Orchard. It was agreed that the money will be paid into the Fairfield Association account to be spent on the orchard.
- ii) There was a problem with sharp edges on one of the legs of the picnic table which was installed by Andrew, Simon, Oliver and John but this has been shielded with rubber tyreing and is now felt to be safe.

### **Membership Secretary update**

We enrolled 18 new members on Fun Day. The database will be up and running after the holidays.

### **Communication update**

It was agreed that a newsletter should go out in September and should include, a report on Fun Day, information about joining the organisation, notices about Bonfire Night, the Green Fair.

### **AOB**

- i) It was agreed to book a stall at the Green Party Fayre.
- ii) Shirley Rawsthorne, who works as the Diversity Manager at Lancaster Prison, said that she was hoping to be able to establish links between the local community and the prison. The meeting was very positive about the idea and several possibilities were discussed. These included ideas for taking, for example, our power point display on the FAUNA project into the prison; joining the prison carol singing at Christmas; the use of things made by prisoners as part of our fundraising. Cards, notelets, and cake were suggested. It was also suggested that we might be able to use digital photographs of the local area as inspiration for art or creative writing and the Fairfield Association website might be made available in the library.

### **Date and time of the next two meetings:**

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September, Brookhouse

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, Whitegates