

Minutes of the meeting of the Fairfield Association held on May 28th 2008 at 51, Ashfield Avenue, Sunnyside Lane.

Present: Sid Duncan, Oliver Fulton, Simon Gershon, Lindsey Harley, James McDowell, Jamie O'Brien, Shirley Rawsthorne, Mary Ridley, Mick and Hilary Short, Jean Stewart, Adrienne Wallman.

Apologies: Andrew Brennand, Ann Duncan, Ruth Haigh, Peg and David Herrod, Jude Naish, Michael Sheppard.

Matters Arising

- ? Most of the new trees on Fairfield Green are looking healthy. New posts have been put in.
- ? Thomas Borland will come round and inspect the plaques and will install them at cost.

Treasurer's Report

There is £9947.63 in our account. This is the total at the end of the financial year and our accounts have now gone to Alan Burton. Simon has received a grant of £100 from the Woodland Trust and put in receipts to the value of £100.80 for expenses. The Cooperative Bank account has been opened and this will enable us to use standing orders.

Fun Day

The marquee has been booked. Shirley agreed to copy Simon's leaflets publicising the Orchard volunteer programme and also to ask if the prison will provide us with some cakes.

Play Area

? We have received a report from Lancaster City Council. This points out:

- i) There are missing end caps
- ii) There is play in the climbing net
- iii) A securing bolt is missing from the roundabout
- iv) The gate spring needs repairing
- v) Tripping hazards in the safety surface.

It was agreed that none of these were significant issues. Mick agreed to contact Briscoes about a new spring for the gate and Sid agreed to oil it.

The nettles will be cut down around the play area and the bench area will be mown before Fun Day.

Orchard Update

- ? The outcome of a recent Trust meeting suggests that the propose merger will go ahead without contention. The decision to wind-up the Trust will be presented at the AGM. There will then be a meeting of the trustees after the AGM which will formally agree to this. The Trust's accounts have been audited and although these are still outgoing expenses, it looks as if there will be about £660 left in the account at the end of the year.
- ? The Orchard Trust has applied to Breathing Spaces for a grant of £10,000. Should the application be successful, they will need to organise the transfer of

the money or possibly delay the merger. It was agreed that we would talk to Marion and Andrew about this if the grant is given before the date proposed for the merger.

- ? The large ash tree has again shed branches. It was agreed that when there had been a good deal of rain and high winds were forecast that we should put up notices warning people of the danger.
- ? The tent has gone and the ash branches have been put into the space vacated.
- ? The Probation Service has put down the new path topping and the path will now be rolled.
- ? Andrew Brennand is organising The Teddy Bears' Picnic which will take place on Sunday 31st of August.
- ? Simon is organising Apple Day which will take place during British Food Fortnight on Saturday 4th October. The event will run between noon and 5pm. Tea and cake and apple juice will be served and possibly cheese and chutney. Simon will check whether or not the Orchard is part of the no-alcohol zone.
- ? If Townley Close is opened, The County Council is committed to providing a footpath and will also adopt the right of way from the new footpath left towards Sunnyside Close. However, there is still an issue about enforcing the right of way between the end of Townley Close and the Orchard. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to have bollards at the end of Townley Close and it was thought possible that the County Council may also pay for these.
- ? Go Wild Week was well attended and made a total of £35 for the Orchard after expenses were deducted. It was agreed that it would be a good thing to repeat the event and suggested that we should also include a children's evening or possibly a day at the weekend.

FAUNA

Our revised planning application still needs to be submitted. Georgina is still working on plans for the paddock. The allotment holders have managed to raise the funding for the boundary between the allotments and LGGS land.

Website

James McDowell has volunteered to run the website for us and circulated some ideas. These included simplifying the site and making it more able to provide up-to-date information. He made it clear that he was able to save the material from the existing website and will liaise with Oliver on this matter. He was confident that he could do the essentials of the job very quickly indeed. After this the website will be developed in stages. The website should not cost any money for the next four years.

AOB

- i) Simon suggested that an energy-saving group might be formed in the neighbourhood.
- ii) Adrienne has written to Lancashire County Council about the cutting back of the hedge along the footpath between Lucy Brook and Aldcliffe Road.

Dates of Next Meetings

- i) 7.30 pm July 18th, Lyndene (Michael's house)
- ii) 7.30 pm, Tuesday, 9 September at Simon's house: 51, Ashfield Avenue