

Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on Wednesday 22nd October 2008 at Thorneycroft

Present: Andrew Brennand , Margaret Burtonwood , Oliver Fulton, Henry and Helen Hicks, Shirley Rawsthorne, Jane Sellars, Jean Stuart, Mick and Hilary Short.

Apologies Ruth Haigh, David Herrod, Tony Finn, James McDowell, Jude Naish, Corinna Peniston-Bird, Michael Sheppard.

Matters Arising:

Playground Report: The spring on the toddler gate has been replaced and the safety surface has been successfully repaired.

A securing bolt was replaced on the swing gate of the roundabout but the same bolt has broken off again. Screws are still needed on the climbing net. Other issues mentioned in the report are less important. There is a small amount of play in the small slide but it is not clear what action can be taken. Some plastic caps are missing. Henry has a bag of caps, however all the bolts have to be unscrewed in order to fit them and they are thought to be cosmetic.

Cedar of Lebanon: Michael has replied to complainant, saying that we are looking into the matter. Simon is checking the location of drains. It was agreed that the issue should be discussed at the next meeting.

Banner:

Ruth's research concluded that we could buy a plastic banner for between £112-£130. Hilary has asked Caroline if she would make us a banner, similar to the ones we had before, but waterproof, and she has agreed. Oliver said that Ruth did not have strong views on any particular type of banner and it was agreed that Caroline should go ahead and make a cotton banner.

FAUNA:

LGGS is waiting for the City Council to discuss the deal on the white farmhouse with Robin Loxham. Although the lease does not expire until February, he has been cooperative since they served notice and has allowed them to go on the land to dig some bore holes which indicate that there is no solid rock which would cause problems. However, the athletics track is now less of a priority for the school. If they decide not to proceed, access to our land will be more difficult. Until Robin Loxham and the Council come to an agreement we remain stymied.

Hilary has written to thank the Yorkshire Building Society and will contact them to ask how we apply for more money.

The Parkin stall is organised. Nothing happened about the second-hand generator. But Jean Stuart said she would ask around.

The Newsletter went out

Treasurer's Report:

We have £10,457.94 in the Nationwide account and £746.50 in the Coop Bank. We banked £40 in membership fees and £10 donations. Outgoings include £260 on the Orchard Survey and £15.54 on playground repairs. £335.04 was taken at Apple Day but £214.04 has yet to be withdrawn and the total expenditure is still not known.

Membership Secretary's Report:

Another 11 members rejoined or joined up bringing the total to 92 members.

Standing orders for the FA go out in November.

Apple Day:

It was surprising how many people turned up, considering the weather, and it was undoubtedly an enjoyable occasion. It was agreed that some of the new activities such as wood turning and banner-making should be rerun.

There was a discussion of the Fairfield Association's involvement in activities in the town centre. It was agreed that in future the Fairfield Association should not be involved in activities in the town centre and that consequently our insurance would not extend to any activities in that location. However, Apple Day activities in the Orchard would continue to feature on our calendar.

Bonfire night 8th November : This has been organised by Michael and Jude. Hilary agreed to email Ruth to make sure that the cake call went ahead. Michael doesn't want to sell anything in cups. However it was agreed that left over apple juice could be used at the Wassail.

Green Christmas Fair : The Castle will provide cakes , Helen will provide some Christmas cards. We will also have wassailing and Carol singing fliers. Oliver, Helen and Jean Sellars offered to help.

Carol singing: Saturday 20th December, 1.30 -3.30 in St Nicholas Arcade +Christmas Eve, starting at the white farmhouse.

Orchard subgroup:

The subgroup has met twice and now has almost all the documentation from the Trust. The final Trust accounts will be handed over when we have the Breathing Places grant.

There has been discussion of the relationship of the sub-committee to the main committee: what should be reported back and how this should be done. There was also discussion as to

whether or not the Orchard Subgroup should have budget or whether it should simply ask for money as the need arose. The subgroup thought a budget was a good idea and Simon has produced a draft budget. Terms of reference, were referred to the next meeting.

Issues relating to the camper are now resolved. The police have the tent and Helen Hicks has told the girl involved where the tent is.

More volunteers are wanted although there were lots of people on the last volunteer day.

Oliver is updating the management plan which will form a guide for the volunteers . There are also some bigger decisions to be made: some trees need thinning out but since some are donations this needs to be done with sensitivity and there needs to be consultation with the Fairfield Association.

Although the Charities' Commission agreed the merger and revised constitution, the Council have indicated that a Deed of variation should be attached to the lease. A meeting is planned with Ann Wood to discuss this issue and also issues to do with FAUNA

Playground Report:

The hedge needs cutting and PJ was volunteered to help Mick .

AOB

Our auditor has suggested that a deed of governance may be useful now that we are a bigger organisation. It was agreed that Jude's opinion would be a good starting point.

Diversity and Equality Action Team Meeting 27th Nov

Over 60's tea party 2pm -4pm, 19th Nov at the Castle –no clearance required.

It was agreed that Jean Stuart's proposal that Sibsey St and Wingate Saul should be one-way streets was a good idea, although it doesn't fall within our remit.

Wassailing will be organised after next FA meeting.

Next Orchard Subgroup Meeting Wed 5th Nov, Whitegates, Sunnyside Close

Next two Fairfield Association Meetings: 19th Nov Whitegates, Sunnyside Close; January 14th Helen and Henry's house, Edenbreck.