

**Fairfield Association**  
**Minutes of the meeting held**  
**On 20<sup>th</sup> March at: Robert Gillow pub, Lancaster**

**Present**

Dave Brookes, Jane Parker, Ian Procter, Julia McDowell, Andrew Brennand, Ruth Haigh, Hilary Short, Tony Finn, Mick Short, Annie Watson, Sue Widden, Oilver Fulton, Peter Callingham.

**Apologies**

Mandy Bannon.

**Minutes**

Query line on Sustainability Grant at end of Treasurers Report. Should read "balance of £1200 still to spend". Otherwise agreed as correct.

**Friends of Storey Garden**

Annie previously attended FOG. Here to glean info and help get on way. They meet once a month on last Tuesday at Storey Institute and have a working party on first Sunday. 20 volunteers attended first working party. Council are putting money aside in their budget for generally tidying up.

**Treasurers Report**

Bank account:

20/02/13: £52,430.03

20/03/13: £45,563.16

Significant income:

£3000 FOTT grant arrived

Significant expenditure:

£12,650 paid to Better Roofing

£116.36 for two urns

Have received a £1,253.61 renewal quote from Zurich - Andrew will give green light on renewing before April 8 unless remaining outstanding quote is better.

**Membership Report**

1 renewal and 2 new members.

**Website**

Blogging going well. Request from Julia to tweet things. Julia says that since she is attending meetings she can harvest dates from newsletters and meetings she attends. Ruth recorded her thanks for how useful and comprehensive the new website is. Heritage Lottery Fund logo on top level of FLORA domain.

**FOG Report**

Very long and arduous FOG meeting but details can be checked in minutes. Snagging is underway with Hanafins. Hedging around paddock was discussed. Maxine Knagg has agreed in principle that we can lay the whole of the hedge line between the allotments and the paddock. Will do it next season. Volunteer sessions well attended and hedges planted. Good work from Tony with Dallas Rd. New bird and bat boxes installed. Storage facility is going up. Glitches between our and Fraser's builders are being ironed out. £500 awarded from Lancaster Green Spaces. We are obliged to give the volunteers a say in the nature of the green roof and they need to help put it on. Joe D will liase and give us some options.

Photos will be needed. We have seen the insurance certificate now. He also sent us a renewed figure for the increased footprint. Final estimate gone up to £28,500. VAT free.

FLORA - HLF bid successful so purchase of fields can go ahead. Mick has successfully received permission to start. The first (large) tranche of grant should arrive next week. Letters have now gone to pledgers and so the process of cashing those will commence and they will be cashed on the 30th March. This should enable us to complete the purchase in April. We have informed the Harries family that we are set for purchase. Negotiations have now begun with Gleesons for the final 6 acres. Agreed to discuss the grazing of the FLORA fields at the next FLORA steering group next Monday.

### **FOTT Report**

We have now instructed solicitors (JWK) to work on lease. Received ten page letter with a plethora of questions which we are working through. Environmental search already covered by contamination survey. Canal & RT search circumvented through direct contact. Signed license with City Council to enable the contamination survey. Tree survey done. Bat Lady (Gail) been to site has produced a report. Planning an event in mid-May, but this clashes with the Friends of Storey Garden, so they'll probably target early July. Oliver raised the question of an archaeological survey which FOTT agreed to consider.

### **Playground Report**

Chalk still on some items. If the rain does not wash it off they will need to be cleaned. Abacus holding resurface quote until September. Ken Capewell persists with the toddler gate, for which we record our thanks.

### **Events**

Easter - Tony is concerned about the weather and lack of leaves for hiding the clues. If weather continues to be bad at this time of year we can review the ongoing nature of the event. Over five and five-and-unders hunts. Egg decoration is being handled by Elaine Weedy. Easter Bonnet comp advertised. Tony will arrange a judge. Two marquees, tables, chairs, urns and connecting up to electricity for midday still needs volunteers. Julia offered an estate car to help move the tables from Oliver's cellar. Martins have offered electricity and water. Tony will double check time and access with Carol Martin. Volunteers have been keen to populate the serving rota, but we could definitely use some more especially those with experience. Risk assessment in hand. First Aid qualified persons are Helen and Mick.

Hum Holler and Sing - Friday 24th May.

Auction - people agreed to consider what they might be able to offer and email Sue N.  
Open Garden - 10.30 til 4 both days.

### **Correspondance**

Oliver's letter to Lucia came back with a request for help with the Beyond the Castle Saturday 18th May. We should mention that the Storey Garden will be open between 11 and 2.

### **Items for Website/Facebook**

None.

### **AOB**

None.

**Next Meetings** April 17<sup>th</sup> (Gillow), May 22nd (Gillow), June 12th AGM (FMH).