

**Fairfield Association**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held**  
**on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at: the Robert Gillow pub, Lancaster**

**1) Present**

Mandy Bannon, (minutes), Amy Bates ( Alternative Futures Group), Andrew Brennand (chair), Dave Brookes, Peter Callingham, Ken Capewell, Tony Finn, Jane Parker, Ian Procter, Hilary Short, Mick Short

**2)Apologies**

Oliver Fulton, Ruth Haigh

**3)Minutes** from the last meeting were accepted, with one change under Correspondence: Carole Martin has agreed to be involved in the production of the next calendar.

**4) Task Directory**

Andrew distributed a list comprising 12 tasks from Ruth, Mick and Ian. Ruth to email out, to try and recruit some more volunteers. Amends to list include deleting Task 5 (organising ploughing and seeding of Flora field) postponing Task 7, (coordinating the archaeological field walk) until Autumn. Ken offered to do task 12, (tool maintenance) if no no-one else comes forward.

**5) Easter Arrangements**

Tony reminded us that there will be 20 clues hidden along the orchard and Fauna path. There'll be four stations where children can get their clue cards (different children will have different clues to search for). Tony will need marshals, and helpers to distribute cards. Elaine will need two helpers for the egg decorating. Saturday volunteers to erect the marquees. Water supply from Carole Martin. Tony would like someone to buy the refreshments – tea, coffee, etc. Hilary and Mick to serve refreshments, Jane to organise a float. Ian suggested that we need to make it clear that this year's egg hunt has been extended to the nature reserve path. A goody bag evening is planned for Wednesday 2nd April, where 150 bags will be packed. Any surplus bags can be sold at Fun Day.

**6) Treasurer's Report**

<b>Balance</b>	17/2/14	£33,977.00
	17/3/14	£21,769.00

**Significant Items – Incoming**

RPA grants:

fencing	£ 3,438.50
Fauna wildflower seed	£ 822.00
Revenue Payment (increased)	£ 3,462.91

Fairfield Friends cheques     £ 720.00

**Significant items – Outgoing**

Bowland Tree Services	£ 2,470.00
FW Huddleston	£17,355.00

**General Funds                     £19k**

## **7) Membership Report**

Andrew reported in Ruth's absence.

There have been five renewals, plus £55 in donations. Seven longterm members and couples (14 people in total) have not responded, so Ruth wondered if they'd become Friends instead. Mick said there was a complication with banks as you can't have more than one standing order paid to an individual organisation. Dave suggested a Friend should automatically become a member. This matter should go to the AGM in June.

## **8) Website**

Thanks were given to Julia in her absence, especially for her work on the website schools page. Mick is writing text for a Friends page. Flora pages need changing too. It was decided to add IT assistant to task list.

## **9) FOG Report**

The Farming Single Payments Scheme (SPS) - Hilary reported that Rodney Coward at Lancaster Auction Mart said the scheme will be open for 2015, so if we qualify (ie if our percentage of profit from farming is high enough) we can apply this Autumn. Hilary to phone Rodney in July, and we can discuss the outcome in the September meeting.

## **10) FSG Report**

Mick reported that

- We are nearly there on capital works. Thanks to Dave and Ian and volunteers. Income will be same as what we're paying out.
- We have found a Cockerham farmer who will plough and donate two breeding partridges. We'll be getting HLF funding with crops. The farmer advises planting wheat first. He'll plant, till and sow and harvest it. Mick hopes that if it's a decent crop, he may take the crop as payment, but the farmer is not sure we'll get a good crop if we're not using herbicides. He thinks weeds will be a problem. There will be supervision with the ploughing to make sure the lynchets are preserved.
- Education programme – Tony's visits to schools are going well, as is the Storey Institute lecture programme.
- Hilary and Mick have asked for half the lottery funding in advance, but they've not heard back.
- New bird boxes have been erected in Pony Wood.

## **11) FOTT Report**

- Noticeboard has been ordered, following planners' approval.
- Dropping bollards to be erected, to prevent cars parking and blocking off the entrance of the Triangle.
- Spring event to be Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> (BBQ, teas, cakes, games, workshop, treasure hunt inspired by Royal Geographic society).
- Waiting to hear on a grant application for Georgina's design in next 2 weeks.
- Application being made to Queen's Partnership for tools and also applying to Lancaster Wind Turbines Fund.

## **12) Playground Report**

Andrew reported we are waiting for grants to come through from Children in Need and United Utilities.

## **13) Events**

Fun Day – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

- Sarah Dawson has offered to coordinate 3<sup>rd</sup> party stall holders
- Elaine will do cakes stall.
- Adrienne will organise fire engine
- Nick Gebhardt will coordinate music. A local charity rents out a sound stage for £300. We could include this with the grant application for marquee and loo.
- Andrew to ask Fraser to do the BBQ (or Fott's Duncan)

#### **14) Correspondence**

The Co op has written to Jane to thank us for staying with them. Jane will ask them if the amount of cash that the government guarantees private citizens in the event of a bank going out of business (£85k) applies to charities as well.

#### **15) Items for Website/Facebook**

- Fott May event
- Task list for Facebook
- Cross Bay Walk organised by Annabel (TBC)

#### **16) AOB**

Amy Bates from the Alternative Futures Group, who support people with learning disabilities, wanted to say how much one of their clients is enjoying volunteering in the orchard and nature reserve. The young man, who is autistic really loves taking part, and Amy wanted to let us know and offered to promote us on their newsletter, and possibly fundraise for us. It was suggested Amy write us something that we could put on our website.

#### **17) Next Meetings** - Both meetings starting at 7.30pm.

Wednesday April 23rd– Robert Gillow pub

Wednesday May 21st – Robert Gillow pub