

## **Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 19<sup>TH</sup> November 2014 in the Robert Gillow pub.**

### **Present:**

Andrew Brennand, Chair  
Graham Brandwood  
Dave Brookes  
Ken Capewell  
David Dawson  
Ruth Feinberg  
Tony Finn  
Oliver Fulton  
Ruth Haigh  
Sue Nieduszynska  
Jane Parker, Treasurer  
Ian Procter  
Louisa Reynolds  
Hilary Short  
Mick Short  
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

### **1. Welcome**

Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Peter Callingham, Mandy Bannon and Anne Murphy.

### **3. Minutes from the last meeting**

Andrew corrected the previous correction relating to FOTT activities: the lean-to building has been demolished, and funds have been secured for ongoing building works.

### **4. Treasurers Report**

Jane presented highlights from the report; bank balance now stands at £31,126.

Items of significant income included £500 solar lighting for the Triangle, £1500 from educational visits and £3807 HLS half-yearly revenue payment.

Significant expenditure included £450 design work for the exhibition, 32085 to RSPB for Flora school workshops, £309 to Playdale for cradle seats, £250 to Bowland Tree Services for the Orchard/Fauna tree survey and £418 for the calendars.

### **5. Membership Report**

There have been seven new members since October, and membership donations have been received from seven existing members. Total income from membership donations was £350.

### **6. Website**

Consent was assumed for the reconfiguration of the website, which is intended to give more prominence to the benefits of FA membership. A link saying "Supporting Us" would be given prominence on the navigation bar on the left.

### **7. Education**

Tony Finn presented a paper which proposed that HLS funding should be used to enable local schools to visit the reserve. Suggestions included transport subsidy for the school, and the cost of Tony's sighted assistant. It was agreed in principle that the proposed visits for the forthcoming calendar year should go ahead, with the proviso that there were other educational plans in the pipeline, such as Sue's adult education project and that funds may also be required for those. Sue agreed to submit a proposal to January's FA meeting. **Action SN**

## **8. FOGG report**

### **Fire Circle.**

There was a lengthy discussion about the fire circle in Pony Wood, which had been used as part of the Forest School's programme. A vote to continue using the circle had taken place at the November FFOG meeting, although some members were concerned that the vote had been taken with imperfect information regarding the impact on wildlife. It was finally decided at this FA meeting that Forest School fires would continue for the next year subject to a further impact assessment on wildlife by FFOG's advisors, who would be asked to advise which time of the day and year would have the least negative impact on wildlife in the wood. Graham to be involved in consultation with Richard Storton about birds, and with Gail Armstrong about bats. **Action FFOG**

### **DBS checks**

Andrew thanked Graham for assuming responsibility for DBS checks of volunteer co-ordinators. He agreed to circulate the Rehabilitation of Offenders policy to trustees.

### **Footpaths**

Mick suggested that some of the reserves footpaths required resurfacing. This item was carried forward to the next meeting. He confirmed that half the rushes had been cut to improve the habitat for wildlife, but Ragwort may require removal. He made some suggestions for use of £300 raised from the University Walk and Talk sessions.

## **9. FOTT report**

- Dave reported that work had started to repair the wall adjacent to the canal bridge; the City Council intended to access the Triangle as part of the project.
- £500 had been received from United Utilities in respect of a lighting installation.
- The developer of the land across from the Triangle are to be asked for a contribution to funds.

## **10. Playground Report**

It was reported that there was a loose plank on the infants' climbing frame. Andrew and Ken agreed to inspect the playground for faults, and also the whereabouts of the 'no dogs' sign. **Action AB/KC**

## **11. Events**

FA to host a stall at the Green Fair on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, selling calendars and notelets.

Carol singing to take place on Christmas Eve; Steve to arrange, and Ruth to email information to residents and singers. **Action RH**

Andrew confirmed plans for wassailing on 17<sup>th</sup> January. A side of Morris dancers had been booked, and the Association agreed to meet their costs.

## **12. Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

## **13. Website and Facebook**

Andrew said that the website was up to date, and that he would update Facebook presently. **Action AB**

## **14. Any Other Business**

Complaints were made about the state of the Pads footpath. It was thought that the City Council had responsibility for the path, however.

## **15. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place at 19.30 on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014, at the Friends Meeting House, then at the same time on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the Robert Gillow.