Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 18 March 2015 in Friends Meeting House

Present:

Andrew Brennand, Chair

Mandy Bannon

Dave Brookes

Ken Capewell

Tony Finn

Geoff Oliver

Jane Parker

Hilary Short

Mick Short

Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue Nieduszynska and Ruth Haigh.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed.

4. Treasurers Report

Bank balance as of 17/03/15 £31,951.05

Significant Payments

HLF – exhibition panel - £495 Princes Trust £462 Woodscape £1078

Significant Income

Anonymous donation £300

Fairfield Friends £793 income (Feb/March)

Zurich Insurance Quote for 2015/16 - £1557

5. Membership Report

Since the last meeting we have received Membership donations from 6 existing Members totalling £60

Andrew informed the meeting that Ruth will soon retire from her post as Membership Secretary. All acknowledged that this was a blow to the Association, given Ruth's years of experience, and the valuable network of contacts she has built. It was thought that her replacement would be appointed at the next AGM if possible. A vote of sincere thanks was offered for her unstinting hard work and loyalty during the last eighteen years.

6. Events

Easter:

Andrew advised that publicity had started for Tony's Easter Egg Hunt on 6th April. Some adjustments had been made to the traditional activities. Volunteers came forward to help with bag-packing on 25th March at Tony's house.

Open Garden:

Hilary agreed to call Robin Loxam about the arrangements for the Open Garden event on 27th June. It was thought that tea urns and cups would be required. Mick suggested that FA should think about ways of earning more revenue at the event, such as tours of the Reserve.

Apple Day:

Andrew asked members to try and find out whether other organisations were planning anything for Apple day and if so on what date. Tony suggested, for the FA event, that there should be the usual activities, plus some craft stalls. This was agreed, and it was decided that a sub-group should be convened to plan the event. Andrew to supply Tony with a list of regular stall-holders. **AB**

Creative Writing:

This will take place at the end of April; details to be published. Andrew confirmed that a newsletter was required at the end of May. Mandy agreed to take over the ad-hoc news emails for the time being.

Triangle Fun day:

This will take place on 4th July 2015.

7. Parking problems

Andrew reported that a mobile home parked in the playground ginnel, was causing a nuisance. Dave agreed to investigate via the DVLA. There was a discussion about the possibility of erecting some bollards; Andrew agreed to source a service diagram for the ginnel. **AB**

8. Website

Mandy said she would add details of her creative writing event to the website and Facebook.

9. Education

Tony advised that Dallas Road school had signalled their intention to visit the Reserve.

10. FFOG

Field walking will take place 9/10 April, weather permitting.

The Prince's Trust have repaired two paths in the Orchard.

Mick requested help to move brash in the fields.

Seed-planting will start soon.

Hedge working party have completed their work; trees on Aldcliffe Rd. will soon be removed.

11. FOTT

Some old and damaged trees will be removed in favour of the beech trees.

Money from Lancaster University Wind Turbine fund will pay for some bollards. Builders to donate £4k for repairs to the wall.

12. Playground

Andrew, Ken and David Dawson carried out some repairs following faults that arose in the last safety inspection.

13. Correspondence

The Bowling Club is no longer available as a meeting venue.

A suggestion to split the paths to resolve the issue of cycling in the Orchard was rejected.

Andrew has received an email from Sharing Cities, but has decided not to take part.

Lancaster Museum has requested a copy of the Fairfield leaflet.

There has been an anonymous complaint about a member of the public using a chainsaw in the orchard without taking safety precautions.

Hilary and Mick gave a presentation to the Soroptimists in return for a £40 donation.

14. Website and Facebook

Nothing to report.

15. Any Other Business

Ian advised that he attended the Green Spaces meetings, which exists to pool knowledge of local expertise.

Mandy offered a vote of thanks to the members that attended the talk on archives, and advised that there would be a follow up in Preston the following day.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at on April 15th 2015 at the Friends Meeting House.