

Minutes of Fairfield Association Meeting held on at 19.30 on 21st October 2015 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short, Chair
Mandy Bannon
Tony Finn
Sue Nieduszynka
Geoff Oliver
Ian Procter
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ruth Haigh, Andrew Brennand, Jane Parker, Oliver Fulton and Dave Brookes.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed.

4. Matters Arising

- Hilary reported that the Aldcliffe Hall Road planning permission application had been rejected on the grounds that it would have a detrimental impact on the coastal landscape. Planning permission for the other housing in Aldcliffe was still being contested by the Aldcliffe residents. Fairfield members were invited to submit fresh objections to the new application.
- Hilary advised that she was still considering a change of venue for the FA meetings but that other options suggested that the Friends Meeting House was not only convenient in terms of location but good value.
- Mandy reported that she was awaiting contact from Lora about the next Write Around Fairfield event. It was suggested that the event should be ticketed.
- Mick reported that although the calf born in September had died, a bull calf had been introduced, along with his mother.
- Thanks were extended to Andrew and Ken for repairing the playground equipment.
- Hilary advised that the bollard in the playground had been repaired as soon as she had reported it to the Council.
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5. Treasurer's Report

Hilary delivered the report in Jane's absence:

Significant Income: Apple Day £308; Community Grant: £500

Expenses: Playdale: £240; David Hartley: £200; Daniel Haywood:£150; PageFast: £172

New bank balance: £37,202

Mick thanked the children from the Gleeson family for their £63 donations from a bake sale. He also mentioned that haymaking hadn't been paid for, and asked Jane to check whether Graeme Skelcher had been paid.

6. Membership Report

Hilary delivered a report from Andrew:

No new members this month. All members will be contacted in New Year about updating details and making a donation.

7. Additional items for discussion

Hilary invited suggestions on how to celebrate the 20th anniversary of FA. A few ideas were presented: Party in the marquee after Fun Day, exhibition at Lancaster Museum, sale of t-shirts and memorabilia etc. This item will be further discussed at the November meeting when people have had time to think about the matter.

Aldcliffe residents have made a proposal to create a new parish called 'Aldcliffe with Stodday, whose boundary would include the West Field. After consultation with Debbie Chambers (Democratic Services Manager for Lancaster City Council), Dave advised that this would have no impact on Fairfield Nature Reserve; in fact it was thought that this may offer protection to the Reserve.

8. Education

- There will be a talk about Exmoor ponies on 22nd October at the Storey Institute.
- 'Write around Fairfield' will take place on 19th November. There has been no news of the grant.

Mick advised that he was hosting a gathering of MA students, who were expected to donate £10 each for a tour of the reserve, followed by refreshments.

Tony advised that Dallas Rd. Primary School had planted their seeds and had enjoyed their visit.

9. Events

- Tony reported that Apple Day had been a success, with a healthy attendance. He offered his thanks to all who helped, in particular Ian who had assisted with the planning. Hilary agreed to send Lancaster Beekeepers a letter of support for their work. Sue agreed to speak to Julia about a link from our website to theirs.
- Hilary called for volunteers to staff the stall at Green Party Fair on 21st November. Mandy advised that she intended to contact Carole Martin who has produced the calendar since some of the 200 calendars would have to be sold from home.

10. FFOG

- Sue advised that Richard Storton will continue to provide advice on a voluntary basis.
- She said that 'Nature Reserve' designation was imminent.
- Planning permission had been requested for the Flora path.
- Exmoor ponies are expected to arrive in December.
- Thistles had been abundant this year – Ian suggested scything them.

- Sue reported that the Nature Reserve had been visited by about thirty officials from Natural England, who had been very impressed.
- Geoff suggested that the developers of the new housing estate at Aldcliffe might be persuaded to make a donation towards the cost of the gates and path at Pony Wood.

11. FOTT

Hilary delivered Dave's report: a camper had been removed from the Triangle.

12. Playground Report

Andrew's report advised that the safety surface repaired by Ken, Mick and Andrew, and they have an extra repair kit sent free by Abacus who did the original work.

13. Correspondence

Hilary advised that the police had dealt with several reports about anti-social behaviour in the Orchard. Ruth had submitted information about an award for which Tony had been nominated.

14. Website and Facebook

Geoff offered to edit the website, since parts of it are out of date. **GO**

15. Any Other Business

Sue advised that one of her relatives had received advice from FA about a similar project in her area. She passed on their thanks for the advice they had received.

The next meeting will be on 18th November 2015 at 7.30 at Friends Meeting House.