

Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 19th October 2016 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short (chair)
Mandy Bannon
Andrew Brennand
Dave Brookes
Ken Capewell
Geoff Oliver
Jane Parker
Mick Short
Shirley Rawsthorne, Secretary

1. Welcome

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ian Procter, Tony Finn and Ruth Haigh

3. Minutes from the last meeting

Item 10 – FOTT: plans to use the boat as a piece of play equipment have been abandoned.

4. Matters Arising

- Hilary to follow up the possibility of an exhibition space in St. Nic's Arcade; the grant for this has been extended to April 2017.
- Lancaster Green Spaces have donated £200 for tools on the proviso that the FA spends a further £100 on tools from funds.
- Dave has not yet received evaluation forms for educational visits.
- A meeting has taken place about the map of the fields and paths.
- Weed wiping has been carried out in Big Meadow.
- The slide requires the services of a panel beater, and the roundabout is turning too quickly, possibly compromising safety. It was agreed to wait to see if we get a Lancaster Community grant towards the repairs, before taking any action on the roundabout.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Bank Balance : £66,445
- Significant payments to Beyond the Castle project and £1k to schools.
- Invoices received for rush cutting
- £28k resides in restricted funds.

6. Membership Report

Nothing to report.

7. Additional Items for Discussion

- Hilary advised that the FA has been put forward for the Queens Award and that an assessor, Helen Bingley, has contacted her. There was a discussion about the wide range of duties that

were undertaken by the volunteers, and it was agreed that Helen should be invited to visit on 12th November to see the working party, and playground volunteers in action. All leaders were asked to submit details of their teams' activities.

- Hilary advised that there had been no news about the Walney Island bid.

8. Education

Visits are being arranged by Bowerham and Ryelands schools.

9. Other Events

- Calendars are ready for the Green Fair on 19th November.
- A run of 200 packs of 6 greetings cards is planned. Ann Woodfine's artwork will be sold separately.
- Local organisations, including FOTT, are to take part in Light Up Lancaster around 5th November.
- Mandy to include events in the forthcoming newsletter.

10. FOTT

- Alternative options, to converting the boat into play equipment are being explored.
- Good progress has been made on the raised beds.
- Dave said that The Triangle land which the City Council currently leases and subleases to the FA has been offered for sale at a price of £75,000. We have a secure tenancy for 30 years and an automatic right to renew. It was agreed that the length and security of our lease made this an unattractive option at the present time but we would ask to be informed should the price drop significantly

11. FFOG

- Hilary announced a talk by Roger Frankland at the Storey being held on 20 October - A Gallop through the History of Lancaster's Green Spaces.
- Three cattle have been separated from the rest of the herd, to regularise the herd size.

12. Playground

- There was a discussion about a possible new playground inspector, who appears to have highlighted issues which have previously gone unremarked.
- It will be necessary to erect a sign in the playground to indicate the age-appropriateness of the equipment. **AB**
- Ken has replaced missing caps, and said that he would tackle the worn rubber surface in better weather.
- The rope on the multi-unit is showing signs of wear (where it comes into contact with the foothold).

13. Correspondence

- Georgina Peacock's quotation for work relating to the planned footpath and map for the notice board (cost £738).

- The Rural Payments Agency had visited to check the boundaries of the land for which we receive payment. Thanks to an Electronic mapping device belonging to the RPA the new can now be constructed more easily.

14. Website and Facebook

Nothing to report.

15. Any Other Business

Andrew advised that plans for the Wassail were going ahead, and that he would require £200 to pay the Morris Dancers. He put out a request for dry wood for the bonfire.

Steve Hoyland has agreed to organise the carol singing on Christmas Eve.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is at 19.30 on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at The Friends' Meeting House.