

## **Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016 at Friends Meeting House**

### **Present:**

Hilary Short (chair)  
Mandy Bannon  
Andrew Brennand  
Ken Capewell  
Geoff Oliver  
Jane Parker  
Ian Procter  
Sue Nieduszynska

### **1. Welcome**

Hilary welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Dave Brookes, Tony Finn, Ruth Haigh, Shirley Rawsthorne and Mick Short.

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

The following amendments were made:

4. Matters Arising: Three more members will receive first aid training, including one from the Triangle.

5. Treasurer's Report: Further work at the Triangle was paid for with £1200 from the Tesco grant.

8. Education: A joint bid between Beyond the Castle and the FA includes some funding (£500) for work with local schools.

11. The 'rusty' areas should be 'rushy' areas!

15. AOB: It was agreed that in future, newsletters will be delivered to addresses on Dallas Road, Wheatfield Street and Blade Street and copies sent to LGGS staff room.

### **4. Matters Arising**

1) The sale of calendars and cards at the Green Fair went well. We also had a stall at the LESS event in Lancaster City Centre at which we sold a few more calendars and also made some useful contacts including Janine Conroy from Beaumont College who has students doing the John Muir Award. Her name will be passed on to both Tony and Graham.

We have approximately 20 calendars left. Mandy will take a further 6 to Arteria. It was suggested that we might give calendars to people who are important to the work we do such as our farmers and graziers and also Georgina.

2) Virtual Walk around Fairfield on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Storey Institute attracted 40 people and was very successful.

3) Jon Carter's bird walk on the 11<sup>th</sup> was attended by approximately 12 people and described as brilliant.

4) A claim was made to Natural England but some of our forms were rejected: 1 visit was only for an hour and a minimum of 2 hours is required; 2 examples of 2 visits being on the same day and they will only pay for 1 visit on any day; 2 forms were for visits before the start of the agreement year (i.e. before 1st April 16).

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

- Bank balance 16.11.16: £65,042.76.
- Bank balance 21.12.16: £68,918.88.

- Significant income:
  - Sale of calendars and cards approx. £1192 with income from VIC and Arteria still to come in. RPA £3,807.
  - Lancaster Community Grant £500 towards repairs to the roundabout.
  - Expenses:
    - Keyline £715 for topsoil at the Triangle (Tesco grant)
    - Carrs £374 – lime for Big Meadow
    - Property World - £460 for printing 200 calendars.
    - Ian Ward - £324 for lime spreading
    - Georgina Peacock - £470 for plans (Sharing Heritage)

## 6. Membership Report

There has been one new member since the last meeting.

## 7. Additional Items for Discussion

Proposed new map by Georgina Peacock now needs to be finalized. The following points were made:

### Deletions:

Water channels from the pond in West Field.

Labelling of Hawthorn next to the seat near Alder Pond.

The arrows on Lucy Brook.

Remove the label 'oak' from the tree on the pads footpath (below 'Abraham Heights') - this is not thought to be a significant tree.

### Additions:

A better impression of the new access to Aldcliffe Road.

The Gun Range should be outlined and shaded but not named.

The Stump Circle in the Orchard should be included and labelled

The Shed should be included and labelled.

'You are here' should be placed at the relevant point on the large maps at the end of Sunnyside Lane and the new entrance to Aldcliffe Road.

Label the oak on the pads footpath just below West Field.

### Changes:

'Edenbreck Cottage' needs to be changed to 'Edenbreck Farm Cottage'

'The Triangle' needs to be changed to 'Aldcliffe Road Triangle'.

'Lucy's Pond' needs to be changed to 'Lucy's Pool'.

No apostrophe in Cromwells Pond.

Changes to the small insert showing the Triangle – as directed by Dave Brookes.

Change from a double to a single flower to indicate the arable field.

If possible, a bird that looks more like a snipe and less like a lapwing in Big Meadow

The arrow currently pointing to 'Lancaster City Centre' should point to 'Cromwell Road, The Aldcliffe Road Triangle and Lancaster City Centre.'

### Decisions

It was decided to distinguish permissive and public footpaths.

The new footpath (for which we are still seeking funding) will be shown as 'proposed' on the maps for leaflets and as a 'permissive path' on the large maps for the noticeboards. The noticeboards will be kept in the shed until we have a path to put them on!

## 18. Education

No report

## **9. Other Events**

- Carol Singing 17.00 on Christmas Eve will be led by Stephen Hoyland and followed by refreshments at Sonya and Liam's house. Meet outside Frasers Cottage. Notices have gone up.
- Wassailing 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 3 pm in the Orchard. Graham Brandwood has the bonfire in hand and Tony will provide the drink, Gladly Solemn Sound will sing and we will be entertained by the Stone the Crows Morris
- Volunteers Buffet on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 1930 at the Storey Institute. A vegetarian buffet at around £10 per head. The event is for all volunteers and not those who work outdoors in the Nature Reserve. Sue will ask Julia Salmon to send a notice round.

## **10. FOTT**

Topsoil is now in the raised beds.

## **11. FFOG**

Lime-spreading has taken place on various areas in the hope of deterring the rushes.

## **12. Playground**

There has been some vandalism of the roundabout.

The new tape is not working well on the Pyramid net or multi-unit climbing net and will be replaced. It does work on the central pole.

There are cracks on the base of the cradle swings which we will monitor.

The rubber pad on the gate has split and Ken will attempt to repair it with super glue.

The surface repairs remain good.

Ken will get some Thread Lock in the hope that it will solve the problem with the Spinner.

## **13. Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

## **14. Website and Facebook**

Nothing to report.

## **15. Any Other Business**

Ken registered concern about items in the shed which are no longer required and which, for safety reasons should be removed. These are:

Butane gas for old gas boiler. This needs to go back to the supplier and we should probably dispose of the boiler (since it doesn't work reliably). Ian/Ken will investigate. Also a weed burner which belongs to Simon Gershon. Hilary will ask if he wants it back.

## **16. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is at 19.30 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at The Friends' Meeting House.