

Minutes of the Fairfield Association held on 19 February 2020 at the Friends' Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short (Chair), Mandy Bannon, Andrew Brennand, Sue Nieduszynska, Geoff Oliver, Ian Procter, Mick Short, Shirley Rawsthorne (Secretary)

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Dave Brookes, Tony Finn, David Dawson, Jane Parker and Sue Pope.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

Treasurer had noticed that items costed as stationary were calendars.

3. Matters Arising

LNR still awaiting signatures.

£1K donation from 'Beyond the Castle' project has been spent on 900 wildflower plugs, which were planted recently by volunteers.

Carol Singers – new leader sought.

Towneley Close handrail still not in place.

Signs Express to be approached to make small notices stating that the Pony Wood path may be closed in the event of high winds. They will go on the gates at either end of the path.

An additional playground monitor required.

Action: Chair to notify John Weedy about the wildflowers and ask if the Priory might get together a group of people to plant the plugs which are currently being grown on at Piccadilly Garden Centre ready for planting next year.

Action: Mick to approach David Dawson about monitoring the playground.

4. Treasurer's Report to 15.1.20

Co-op account balance at 15.1.20	£53,335
19.2.20	£52,790

Significant Income:

Wassail donations	£143
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Significant Expenditure:

Naturescape	£1,038
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Wild flower plugs

BTC grant

Funds:

Restricted: BTC	£1596
Triangle	£2,367

General	£48,827
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5. Membership

One new member, no new friends.

6. Playground

Climbing net on the multi- frame needs to be replaced, hopefully using a grant in April. There was a discussion about a willow pod in the play area, proposed by Graham Brandwood. It was agreed that the idea should be explored; however, it was likely that the pod would be vandalised.

7. Newsletter

Action: Mandy to contact Julia about the next newsletter.

8. Events

- Easter egg Hunt: Carole Martin and Emma Foster have agreed to organise this event. Thanks were extended.
- Fun Day: Carole Martin has agreed to be part of a small committee. There was a suggestion that the whole event could be restyled.
- Swimathon: five swimmers taking part, but more sponsors required.
- Volunteers buffet took place on 30.1.20. A great success, but the configuration of the room required improvement.

9. FOTT

Nothing to report.

10. FFOG

- Courses attended by FFOG members included Hedges for Butterflies and Pollinators, and We Love Habitat Restoration .
- Work has taken place on the hedge along the Fauna path to allow light through. Brash to be burnt during the coming weeks.
- It was observed that the Pony Wood path was proving very popular.

11. Additional items for discussion:

There had been a request from Paul Pavli for a £365 donation to buy wildflower window boxes for Fairfield residents. It was decided that FA would not purchase the boxes, but encourage residents to sign up for them, at the Easter Egg Hunt in April and also advertise them via the e-newsletter and Facebook. The price will be £5.

Action: Chair to approach Julia to publicise the scheme, and ask Paul to produce an explanatory leaflet.

11. Website and Facebook

Nothing to report.

12. Education

Nothing to report.

13. Any Other Business

Mick advised that he had given a talk to students who are interested in participating in the University Oral History Project about the Fairfield Association.

Mandy reported that Freemans Wood now has Town Green status, although this did not signal the end of the campaign to stop the proposed housing development.

14. Date of next meeting

Next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 18th March 2020.