

Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on 20th September 2022 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short (Chair), Dave Brookes, Sue Nieduszynska, Geoff Oliver, Jane Parker, Sue Pope Ian Procter, Mick Short (Minutes taker)

1. Apologies

Andrew Brennand, Tony Finn, Geoff Oliver, Sue Pope

2. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed.

3. Matters Arising

- The deadline for Dave to submit reports of school visits to NE is the end of March 2023, so we still have time for them to be sent to Dave for onward transmission. Dave has already received some.
- The Council had still not responded concerning the bollard keys for the Fairfield Green entrance from Wingate-Saul Road.
- Apple Day notices have been put up. 4 more needed for other locations.
- We now have planning permission agreement on the work to be done on the volunteers' shed.
- 90% of the clearing work on the Fairfield Green wildflower area has now been completed. Rattle seed will be sown at the next volunteer day.

4. Treasurer's Report

Bank balance 16.8.22	82,322	
20.9.22	84,550	
Restricted funds		
Duchy of Lancaster	1,000	
R and E Thompson	2,500	
LEF	951	
ETR Wilson	2,000	
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	4,549	
Triangle	875	5,424
General Funds	<hr/>	
	79,126	
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	84,550	

Significant items: Elspeth & Richard Wilson Charitable Trust, £2,000 re Play Area.

5. Membership

No new members were reported this month. So we still have 404 members in total.

6. Matters for discussion

Apple Day, 1st October 2022 We need more volunteers to help set up and supervise the activities for children. Audrey Brennand will do the face painting activity. For electronic purchases, Dave will bring our card machine and Veronica will use her smart phone. We need floats for the tea and cake stall and the games.

7. Playground

- Concerning the need for repair/replacement of the play area waste bins we could see whether they could be included in the general replacement/refurbishment of the play area equipment. Hopefully that will enable us to order them through the Council and so avoid VAT. Andrew can explore this at the next meeting of the play equipment replacement group.
- As the Walney island bid was unsuccessful, even if we succeed with our LEF bid we will still be £45k short of the money needed for full equipment replacement. Ian will ask Emily Heath for advice concerning which funders the Freeman's Wood appeal was successful with.
- Hilary will email Public Relations at the City Council for help/advice concerning the bins.
- The Council have still not done the minor repairs on the safety surface holes, which are gradually becoming worse. Hilary to chase.

8. Education

Nothing to report.

9. Green Fair

This takes place on 19th November, everything needed for it needs to be ready by then.

10. Calendar

- Sue has taken this over now that Carol, who has been very helpful in liaison terms, has left Lancaster. A 7-person group has been involved in planning this year's calendar and it will soon go to the printer. We will charge £10 this year and we are planning a print run of 200.

9. FFOG report

The guided tour for the people from AONB conference at the university was very successful. Everyone enjoyed it, and we made some very useful new contacts and received some helpful advice concerning possible future funding avenues.

However, the AONB people were unhappy about the safety of how the County Council workmen were strimming the public footpath on the day of the tour. Sue will point out the concerns to County officers.

Glenys and Keith have created a comprehensive fruit-tree care and pruning programme. This will be put on the website so that everyone can access it.

Ian is organising a 1-day First-Aid training programme in Lancaster in December, run by our usual first-aid trainer, at the Friends Meeting House. Cost = £425 + room hire, which is

considerably cheaper than us travelling to where the courses are standardly done. Ian has the full complement of 12 volunteers wanting to undertake training.

The White Park herd has been reduced to the bull and 6 heifers, the minimum size stipulated for us by Natural England.

10. FOTT report

Dave is still waiting to hear whether the application to the university wind turbine fund for a new bench has been successful.

Lancaster Music Festival have applied to us the Triangle on 16th of October. 1-4pm would be acceptable but there have been previous complaints about too much noise in the evening. One of our marquees will be needed for it and we are told that all the musical equipment will be acoustic, not electronic.

11. Website and Facebook

Julia is still working on the website, which should be ready soon.

12. AGM (18th of October in the Friends Meeting House starting at 7.30pm)

All the current trustees and officers are willing to stand again, though there is a possible issue concerning the secretary role.

13. Any Other Business

Nothing to report.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting, will take place at 7.30pm on 15th November 2022, in the Friends' Meeting House.