

Minutes of the Fairfield Association meeting held on 15 November 2022 at Friends Meeting House

Present:

Hilary Short (Chair), Andrew Brennand, Dave Brookes, Ian Procter, Jane Parker, Mick Short, Shirley Rawsthorne, Sue Nieduszynska, Sue Pope

1. Apologies

Geoff Oliver, Rick Gould, Tony Finn

2. Minutes from the last meeting

These were agreed.

3. Matters Arising

- Funding for new bench at the Triangle, Dave has received a grant from the University Wind Turbine Fund and ordered a bench.
- Bollard keys received.
- Work is yet to progress on replacing the volunteers' shed roof.
- Apple Day was a great success, £476 raised.
- Green Fair on 19 November is organised.
- First Aid programme organised for 2 December.
- Bethany, Katherine and a small team may take on the calendar from Sue N.

4. Treasurer's Report

Bank balance	20.9.22	84,550	
	15.11.22	84,300	
Restricted funds	Duchy of Lancaster	1,000	
	EJ Thompson	2,500	
	LEF	-951 (not yet received)	
	E&R Wilson	2,000	
		<hr/>	
		4,549	
	Triangle	830	5,379
General Funds		<hr/>	78,921
			<hr/>
			84,300

Significant income: Apple Day £476, Donation £294

Significant expenses: Fence posts £326, First Aid course £472, Calendars £630

Use of card machine for donations – 1.75% or 1.9% charged per payment.

Calendar sales seem slow.

5. Membership

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

6. Playground

- £30K received from Lancashire Environment Fund
- Total cost £73,500, need a further £38,000
- Council may want more money for surfacing.
- Friends of Fairfield Playground are aiming to raise £18K by the end of January from local businesses
- We have received £7K of funding for the roundabout
- May go for Crowd Funding. We will use Wonderful, which is free but doesn't accept payments from Coop bank. We are also in the process of setting up a Facebook fundraising page, although this is not proving to be easy.
- We have produced leaflets to promote supporting the redevelopment of the play area.
- At Green Fair people can donate towards the redevelopment and receive an old Fairfield card stating what their contribution is towards – will extend this via our website after Green Fair.
- Holes in the playground surface – there is material in the shed that might be suitable for repair

7. Education

Walk and talk for university students scheduled for today, postponed until Friday 18 November.

8. Events

- Talk on 17 November at the Storey.
- Carol singing 5-7pm on Christmas Eve, depending on the weather.
- Wassailing – Saturday 14 January. Mark Reynolds is organising. Will need a Gazebo for fruit punch. Emma Foster to be asked to help with drinks, with Wendy for back up. Hilary will ask Gladly Solemn Sound.

A Norwegian (approx. 14 litres flask) would provide sufficient hot water for future events. However, power is also needed. New resident at Orchard House needs to be asked.

9. FFOG report

Arable field:

- We have not seen linnets this year – possibly the warmer weather - or the field is unattractive
- Contractor has cut the grass to leave a bare stubble as specified on the agreement and needed by over wintering birds
- The bird food margins are very sparse, without the density of plants such as fodder radish. which provide bird food over winter.
- We have started putting down seed on the bird tables.

Big Meadow:

- In the wetter area between the rush there is a mosaic of moss and grass providing a good feeding area for snipe that also locks in carbon
- Volunteers have weeded the playground as specified by the council inspection and removed patches of turf to seed with wildflowers near the substation

Rick Gould is keen to get more involved and has been monitoring electric fences. He will take over from Mick's walk and talk for university students.

10. FOTT report

Lancaster Music Festival 1-4pm on 16 October was successful with up to 30 people. No complaints from locals.

11. Any Other Business

The Tite & Locke at the station has a room that can be used for free during the week. Should we meet there? Possibly 20 December.

Goodbye and thank you to Shirley Rawsthorne for her excellent work as secretary.

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at 7:30pm on 20 December 2022, at the Tite & Locke.