



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**11<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Present:** Pete Ward, Adrian Nicklin, Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Neil Wheeldon, Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Jon Hanson.

**Apologies:** Freddie Homer, Wayne Whitehouse, Tracy Taylor, Jan Macey, Paul Woolley.

**Record of last meeting:** Approved by AN, Seconded by PWa.

**1. Matters arising from the record of the last meeting.**

**Projects**

**Orchard**

Design/graphics team are working on the art work and they will keep us informed.

**Calendar 2020**

PWa reminded everyone to keep taking photos.

**Top of Old Hampton Lane**

Site meeting / litter pick on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm.

**Bottom of Old Hampton Lane/Cannock Road**

Permission given by Highways department, work to start on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 8.30am.

**Walk round our projects**

Draft document approved by the 7 committee members who visited our projects.

Sponsors to be contacted highlighting some recommendations that we think will benefit the company and the FOE - action WW.

JH is continuing to compile our project list.

**Future projects**

**Corner-Brownshore Lane area**

Landowner welcomes our input and Highways Department suggested barrier be one metre from the highway. Tyre barriers to be delivered to site along with top soil, it was suggested putting tape to indicate to people that work is being carried out.

CR will contact Staffs Council after the litter pick for the tyres to be delivered.

**Pools Pathway**

15 timber rails have been laid both sides of the path by the Open Spaces team. (Thanks very much to them). Remaining material on the car park to be laid soon.

**Spring Clean 2019**

A very good community event, a big thank you to everyone who helped and supported the day. AN circulated a report which will be on our website and in the Church magazine.

It was stated in the minutes of the Parish Council that we had a donation of £200 for litter pickers, this was not the case but AN had received money to purchase 10 litter pickers which the Parish Council still retain.

## **Website and Event Calendar**

CW and AW continue to update our web site including more up to date photos etc.

### **Data protection update**

WW will keep us updated.

### **Council web page**

WW to send reply with photographs for our inclusion on the council's web page.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

### **Fly-tipping**

Everyone please keep reporting. Blackhalve Lane unofficial layby seems to be a hot spot PWA suggested maybe this area could be dealt with the same as the layby at the top of Windmill Hill?

### **Grassland Restoration and Management**

Various areas to be considered that may be appropriate. The Nicket, grass verges i.e. Blackhalve Lane (should this metre band of cut be reduced?) and the land between Bovis homes and the motorway was discussed - land owner to be determined by the Council - ongoing.

### **Inappropriate Signage**

Email from Staffs Council outlining the procedure WW/CR to reply with amendments. 1 photo of inappropriate signage to be sent as a test case.

## **3. Social Events and Walks**

### **Quiz Nights**

The next quiz night is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at the WMC 7.30pm - £2 per person - max.6 per team. Proceeds from last 3 quizzes will be banked (£184).

### **Essington Show Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>**

PWA and JH will make arrangements to attend with the Golf game.

## **4. Correspondence**

- Email from Council offering us wood chippings for mulch. This was accepted, areas for use to be determined later.
- Email from Council regarding volunteer hours to be recorded every month was received enthusiastically as this would highlight all the work we do. Clarification will be obtained about what can be included.

## **5. Any other business**

- DR reminded everyone that June's monthly meeting is on the 6<sup>th</sup> and our AGM is on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Chris Shaw of South Staffordshire Beekeepers Association will entertain us at our AGM. £100 donation was agreed.
- JH will give a talk at Cherry Tree Court on Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.
- AW suggested high viz jackets with improved Friends of Essington lettering and logo. CR to investigate.
- PWA congratulated everyone for receiving the Essington Community Award for last month but it was said that this should really come from the Parish Council.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start in Church Hall