



Friends of Essington Meeting
11th October 2018

Present: Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Wayne Whitehouse, Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Freddie Homer, Adrian Nicklin, Jon Hanson.

Apologies: Pete Ward, Paul Woolley, Jan Macey, Neil Wheeldon, Tracy Taylor.

Record of last meeting: Approved by AW, Seconded by AN.

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

Projects

Orchard

The wooden information board is in progress.

Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area

Saturday 3rd November 9am has been agreed as the date for a tidy up and litter pick. Flyers will be distributed to all the residents to encourage local participation. Highways Department have commented that the area was looking more attractive and tidy and they are pleased that we have local residents on board.

Calendar 2019

DR and CR have visited the printers and are well on the way with the calendar productions with captions added. Some new sponsors have been obtained (as discussed in the meeting). Price will be kept the same (£2 minimum donation).

Windmill Hill unofficial layby

On Saturday 22nd September the area was levelled and planted and a broken tree branch was taken down - more topsoil required and then final planting.

Top of Old Hampton Lane

CR met with Highways Department and outlined our scheme (similar to unofficial layby) but they would class this measure as a trial and keep the site under review. The small side entrance is to be kept open, more top soil added, something to retain the soil and then planted. WW to contact PWA regarding suggestions made for this area.

Future projects

FOE oak tree and time capsule to be discussed further.

Cannock Road Island

Black and white finger post, with local signage, has now been approved by the Highways Department. CR obtained an estimated price of £700 for the post plus installation costs, CR to investigate alternative supply.

Bottom of Old Hampton Lane/Cannock Road

Suggested project now being discussed with Highways Department - now awaiting a reply.

Corner-Brownshore Lane area

Landowner welcomes our input and Highways Department suggested barrier be one metre from the highway.

Pools Pathway

South Staffs County Open Spaces have given their permission for this work and will assist us with the supply of timber for the edging and may even install it- awaiting a date for their commencement. Cemex will supply material for this work (FOC) having now trialled it and in fact it is being used for pathways at Shugborough Hall, many thanks to them. The transport for this material would cost £13 per tonne but CR has contacted Hilton Main Construction who have kindly agreed to collect and deliver the material FOC - many thanks to them. We now need to think about a date, contact volunteers, arrange compaction equipment and maybe a small dumper truck?

Spring Clean 2019

The date for this is Saturday 30th March 2019. AN will organise posters, also to include satellite areas. (Westcroft, Broad Lane, Sneyd Lane etc).

Website and Event Calendar

CW and AW continue to update our web site etc.

Data protection update

WW has investigated and we do need action in certain areas. WW to advise CW, AW and JH.

2. Environmental Activities

Fly-tipping

Please continue to report fly tipping and litter. CW received a reply from South Staffs Council re. evidence of addresses found in fly tipped bag. They stated that they would be contacting the person named and it is likely that they would issue them with a warning letter!

Millennium Monument

Letter now to be sent to the Parish Council re. the condition of the monument.

3. Social Events and Walks

AGM

Date for next AGM is Thursday 13th June 2019. DR to contact South Staffs Beekeepers Association to give a talk at our AGM.

Quiz Night

The next quiz nights are Thursday 25th October and Thursday 29th November at the WMC 7.30pm £2 per person max.6 per team.

Hilton Green

Apple Day Saturday October 20th 11am - 3pm. FOE to attend with golf game. CR,DR,AN and FH will set up at 10.30am and will man the game until CW and AW arrive at 12.30pm, we would be grateful of any more help.

4. Correspondence

All correspondence received was read out during the meeting, including PWO's email about the triangle.

5. Any other business

- AW asked about our annual meal in January - to be discussed at next meeting.
- CW and AW will not be available to present the wreath at the Remembrance service - can anyone help please?
- FH and AN commented on the signage around community centre and both Industrial Estates which need tidying up and with better presentation. Points of contact to be obtained.
- JH to investigate a Facebook page that just promotes our activities and doesn't allow any comments.
- FH informed us that Bryn's flagpole was in need of some attention AN to investigate.
- FH informed us that the culvert had silted up again. WW commented that this should be dealt with by the Open Spaces Team.
- Blackhalve gateway - the plan to demolish the signage and provide new is currently listed on the highways programme. They are looking into this with some funding input from county councillors in our area, we need to contact them again to see what they have in mind.
- CR, DR have tidied up the bench area and all were reminded that we still have responsibility for both sponsored and unsponsored areas. JH will start to collate a list of all our projects.

Date of next meeting: Thursday November 8th 7.30pm start in Church Hall.