



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**12<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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

**Apologies:** Freddie Homer, Tracy Taylor, Wayne Whitehouse, Angie Whittle, Jan Macey.

**Record of last meeting:** Approved by PWO, Seconded by NW.

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

**Projects**

**Orchard**

The wooden information board is in progress.

**Tribute to Bryn**

All agreed that 2 public footpath posts be purchased, with the inscription and siting as suggested by PWO, who will now place the order.

**Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area**

Planting being looked after by locals and they will be contacted at a later date to encourage more responsibility (maybe a litter pick FOE led).

**Calendar 2019**

WW to collate all the photos for viewing at the September meeting, please forward your photos to him. It will be a 7pm start at this meeting.

**Future projects**

FOE oak tree and time capsule to be discussed further.

**Website and Event Calendar**

CW and AW continue to update our web site etc.

**Data protection update**

WW to clarify.

**Windmill Hill unofficial layby**

CR to locate small amount of soil and then it needs levelling out and planting in September.

**Top of Old Hampton Lane**

CR obtained written permission from Highways department for the plan of using old road kerbs along the edge to retain the soil and back filled with a mixture of soil and rubble. This has now been tipped and needs levelling out along with the old road kerbs being positioned, it was suggested that Hilton Main could help us with this - NW to contact and organise.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

### **Corner-Brownshore Lane area**

Drawing now in hand awaiting contact with land owner. PWO to source paint. CR and PWA to investigate further.

### **Pools Pathway**

DR read out Tarmac's reply to email asking for material, they said to ask again in the new year when new budget has been allocated.

CR also contacted South Staffs County Open Spaces- no reply to date.

CR received an email from Cemex who are trialling some material that may be suitable and they are awaiting performance feedback. Having looked at the photos of the material CR replied stating that it was just what we were looking for. If this is ok and we do get the material, permission from the Open Spaces team needs to be obtained, edging for paths located and compaction equipment loaned or hired (it was suggested that maybe Hilton Main Construction could help with this).

### **Fly-tipping**

Please continue to report fly tipping and litter - seems particularly bad down Hobnock Road and Bognop Road. The gated entrance in Hobnock Road still has a pile of asbestos sheets with a pipe on top of it, a bag in the middle, 2 tyres and general rubbish- could everyone please report. CW reported some evidence with addresses on packaging to South Staffs Council who are looking into it.

### **Litter picking/Essington in Bloom**

To assist with Essington in Bloom the Millennium monument was cleaned, hedge trimmed and a litter pick carried out along Wolverhampton Road on 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> June. When cleaning the monument it became apparent that the area needed looking after on a regular basis and the monument needs some repairs. To this end it was suggested that the Parish Council be written to pointing this out to them - action WW.

DR commented on the poor condition of the litter bin by the monument, could we provide one? All agreed DR to look into permission/costs etc.

70 flyers were distributed to residents in Upper Sneyd Road to encourage them to join us on a litter pick in their area on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, only 1 resident (Debi) joined 7 FOE members who litter picked Upper Sneyd Road, Kitchen Lane corner and Brownshore Lane.

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

### **AGM**

Date for next AGM is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (our normal meeting Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June).

### **Windmill exhibition**

Rearranged date is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 at Cherry Tree Court 2pm and 7pm. Refreshments provided by Cherry Tree Court donations invited.

### **Quiz Night**

The last 2 quiz nights raised £102. The next 2 quiz nights will be on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September at the WMC 7.30pm £2 per person max.6 per team.

#### **4. Correspondence**

- Email received from Matt & Steph (1 Swynnerton Drive) regarding them helping with some work on Adrian's Wall- PWO will contact.

#### **5. Any other business**

- AN commented that the latest edition of the South Staffs Review now has a community page and the FOE Spring clean was included.
- DR informed that there was a Community Food and Drink Festival at Hilton Green on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 11am - 4pm. All agreed that FOE should be involved either with an activity (AN offered his football game) or a stall advertising us. CR & DR to investigate.
- CR suggested installing a black and white finger post in the middle of our Cannock Road Island with local signage and the old finger post at the bottom of Old Hampton Lane taken away and replaced with some simple planting. All agreed. CR to investigate- PWO to cost.
- PWA commented on the poor condition of some of the plants in one section of the Cannock Road Island. PWO obviously aware of this and will replace with plants from the other sections when appropriate.
- Bob Firmstone approached PWA regarding help from FOE with repairing overflow which controls the level of the pools. This was discussed and declined due to FOE having many commitments at the moment. Bob should seek advice from the Open Spaces team.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm start in Church Hall (Early start to accommodate choosing photos for 2019 calendar).