



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**13<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**Present:** Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Freddie Homer, Pete Ward, Jan Macey,

**Apologies:** Neil Wheeldon, Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Jon Hanson, Paul Woolley, Wayne Whitehouse, Adrian Nicklin, Tracy Taylor.

**Record of last meeting:** Approved by FH, Seconded by PWA.

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

**Projects**

**Orchard**

The wooden information board is in progress.

**Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area**

Posts laid by highways for new road layout. We hope that this does not interfere with our plantings.

**Calendar 2019**

Sales going well just a few left at the Post Office and Chemist. JM had complementary comments regarding the outstanding quality of the photographs.

**Windmill Hill unofficial layby**

Soil has been levelled by DR, CR and AN and wild flower seeds, bulbs and whips were planted.

**Top of Old Hampton Lane**

Highways Department will keep the site under review. Another site meeting by FOE is needed - date to be arranged. WW to contact PWA regarding other suggestions made for this area!

**Future projects**

FOE oak tree and time capsule to be discussed further.

**Cannock Road Island**

Jamie Harper of Alvaston Loft Conversions is making progress CR to keep in touch.

**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**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November - a good turnout of people including Roger of Gardenrite who loaded the wheelbarrows with his machine. Thanks to all and also thanks to Hilton Main for the use of their equipment. A good section of path was laid but some material was unused, the Open Spaces team have said that they would lay more edgings for the path allowing this material to be used. Thank you to them.

**Spring Clean 2019** The date for this is Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **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.

## **List of our projects**

JH has made a start collating a list of all our projects.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

### **Fly-tipping**

The litter bin by the Millennium Monument has been replaced thanks to Andy Cousins - Street Scene Team. Please continue to report fly tipping and litter. Quarry entrance still remains problematic, AN to contact Tarmac to see if they could put their concrete road blocks to the front side of the gates to stop vehicles pulling in. It was also noted that a lorry had damaged the grass verge by the bench, this needs some work, date to be arranged.

### **Millennium Monument**

A letter was received from the Parish Council saying that an inspection and remedial works will be carried out in Spring 2019. The group was thanked for their interest and continued works in our community.

### **Inappropriate Signage**

It was agreed by all that we contacted the District Council for guidance and clarification on signage that appears everywhere and is an eyesore.

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

### **Quiz Nights**

The next quiz nights are Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February at the WMC 7.30pm £2 per person max.6 per team.

### **Annual meal**

To be discussed at next meeting.

### **Facebook**

JH to investigate a Facebook page that just promotes our activities and doesn't allow any comments.

## **4. Correspondence**

- Email from Keith Elder thanking us for our calendar and he commented on the excellent photography showing Essington at its best.

## **5. Any other business**

- The break in was discussed and the stolen items were a large shredder and litter picking equipment. Reported to the police and no further action. A suggestion was made regarding future use of litter pickers.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday January 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start in Church Hall.

