



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**14<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Present:** Freddie Homer, Pete Ward, Wayne Whitehouse, Adrian Nicklin, Tracy Taylor, Colin Richards, Dot Radford.

**Apologies:** Jan Macey, Neil Wheeldon, Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Jon Hanson, Paul Woolley.

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

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

**Projects**

**Orchard**

CR and DR visited Staffs Council with an outline of what artwork we require, this will be passed on to the design team and a proof sent to us for our approval.

**Calendar 2020**

PWa reminded everyone to keep taking photos.

**Windmill Hill unofficial layby**

DR and CR carried out more planting and litter picked. PWa commented - no fly tipping, minimal litter and low maintenance - a successful project.

**Top of Old Hampton Lane**

Another site meeting by FOE is needed - date to be arranged.

**Walk round our projects**

7 committee members visited our projects at Blackhalve Lane Gateway, the triangle and Swynnerton. AW made notes which will be detailed in a separate document for further discussion. WW reported blocked drain on Bognop Road. PWa thanked everyone for attending. JH is continuing to compile our project list.

**Fred's Bed**

AN said that FH, himself and James Parker would be spending some time on this area, as and when they are available.

**Bench**

Thanks to PWo for replacing damaged turf. DR and CR litter picked and tidied up the area.

**Future projects**

**Cannock Road Island**

WW read out an email from Jamie stating that he will be making progress with the finger post in the near future.

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

CR again contacted Highways Department - still awaiting a reply.

**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**

More timbers to be laid by the Open Spaces team (volunteers required) then the rest of the path material can be laid.

## **Spring Clean 2019**

The date for this is Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - helpers to be at the Scout's Headquarters at 8.45am please. AN reviewed the outlying areas to be litter picked, (with no response from the Sneyd Ward) and a purchase of various consumables was agreed. Equipment and risk assessment all in place.

Thank you to CW for registering our Spring Clean.

## **Website and Event Calendar**

CW and AW continue to update our web site etc.

## **Data protection update**

WW has had permission from all the committee, he will keep us updated.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

### **Fly-tipping**

Everyone please keep reporting.

### **Bird and Bat boxes**

Refurbished by AN and put in place by FH, CW and PWA. FH has given CW a report to be put on our website and in the Church magazine.

### **Inappropriate Signage**

WW read out a reply from the council outlining what we should do and basically if it hasn't had planning approval then it should be removed - any suspected illegal signage could be photographed or company details sent to WW who will report them. SSC to check if permission has been given and advise accordingly. Awaiting official confirmation.

### **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.

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

### **Quiz Nights**

The next quiz nights are Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at the WMC 7.30pm - £2 per person - max.6 per team.

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

Golf game to be used if people are available.

## **4. Correspondence**

- Emails from Jamie Harper and Staffs Council were read out earlier by WW.
- WW read out email from Ryan Taylor regarding Friends Forum at Rodbaston - no one available to attend.
- DR read out email from Council regarding our history and details with photographs for a small inclusion on their web page. DR read out our proposed inclusion - all agreed, WW to send reply with photographs.

## **5. Any other business - none**

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start in Church Hall.