



Friends of Essington Meeting
14th November 2019

Present: Pete Ward, Clem Whittle, Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Jon Hanson, Tracey Taylor.

Apologies: Paul Woolley, Neil Wheeldon, Angie Whittle, Wayne Whitehouse, Freddie Homer, Adrian Nicklin.

Record of last meeting: Approved by CW, Seconded by JH.

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

Projects

Orchard

Graphics to be collected. Meeting with Head teacher of St Johns Primary Academy Friday November 22nd 2pm.

Calendar 2020

Sales going very well, just a few left.

Windmill Hill Bench

Bulbs and Alstroemeria to be planted.

Bottom of Old Hampton Lane

Bulbs and Alstroemeria to be planted.

Jubilee Planter

4 silver birch trees ordered to be planted at the rear of the Jubilee Planter and tubs removed.

Daffodil Bulbs

Daffodil bulbs have been ordered via Forest of Mercia. Bulbs collected from SSC, PWA given bag of daffodil bulbs, these to be planted Saturday November 16th meet at front of church 9am.

Brownshore Crossing

Some sleepers need replacing and the post to the gate is loose and needs some repair.

Our sponsored projects

We have a draft document highlighting some recommendations that we think will benefit the companies and the FOE. PWA to contact other sponsor to arrange a meeting. JH is continuing to compile our project list. Lock up needs sorting out and equipment assessed.

Future projects

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 purchase a portable hard drive and a high capacity flash drive when he can obtain a competitive price.

Tree Planting

Many of the committee have chosen their trees and areas to be planted. A few more areas were suggested for planting. WW to produce a map so that we can

identify suitable locations for the trees to be planted to enable us to obtain permission. Any committee member who has not chosen a tree please let us know what tree you require.

Annual Spring Clean

Saturday 28th March 2020. May need new gloves ordering.

2. Environmental Activities

Fly-tipping

Various areas are still a problem with large amounts of bags having been fly tipped across the area. PWA reported white plastic and rubbish etc. in Blackhalve Lane. Could everyone please keep reporting.

High Viz Jackets

AW reported on her investigation, 12 jackets to be ordered with FOE logo.

Grassland Restoration and Management

Grass verges on Blackhalve Lane could be cut back and wild flowers planted - PWA. Other areas could be investigated. CR has contacted Bovis homes and they would be happy for some involvement - meeting to be arranged - ongoing.

Inappropriate Signage

Reporting inappropriate signage is a way forward to get them removed and also removing smaller signs ourselves and taking them to the council.

Volunteer Hours

Volunteer hours recorded. Could everyone who does not attend a meeting send in their volunteer hours to DR.

Wood chippings

Available from South Staffs Council as and when required.

3. Social Events and Walks

Essington Show

Saturday 2nd May 2020 - Golf game to be organised.

Apple Day at Hilton Green

CW, AW, DR and CR organised golf game. Disappointed public turn out, it was commented that such an environmental oasis wasn't supported by local people.

Quiz Nights

Dates for the next quizzes are Thursday November 28th, Thursday December 19th and Thursday January 16th 2020, usual place and times.

Friend's Walks

We were asked to consider hosting the next friend's group walk. Date to be arranged. Areas of walk to be considered.

4. Correspondence

- Email from Mark Keeling thanking us for the calendars commenting that they are fantastic as usual.

5. Any other business

- Nell Charlesworth kindly donated £40 for our funds.
- FOE calendar 2021 - discussed future photographs, everyone agreed to keep taking them and to extend an invitation in the church magazine and other methods of communication to the wider public to submit photos to us to view.

Date of next meeting: Thursday December 12th 7.30pm start in Church Hall.

