



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**8<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

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

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

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

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

**Projects**

**Orchard**

The wooden information board is in progress.

**Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area**

On Saturday 3rd November 6 local residents plus 6 FOE tidied up the area and planted more Alstroemeria. A litter pick along Bursnips Road, top of Broad Lane and the general area along Hobnock Road resulted in 13 bags of rubbish.

The residents were made aware of the Spring Clean in March next year.

**Calendar 2019**

Sponsors and supporters have now had their calendars and the calendars for sale have been distributed. FH is looking after distribution for the usual outlets at the chemist and the post office, JM is organising distribution at Cherry Tree Court. There are a few calendars left which PWA will take to the quiz night and therefore having no calendars to sell at the school it was decided not to attend their Xmas Fayre. WW to reply to email sent from the school.

Hopefully you will have sold all your calendars but if you have any left then please bring them to the next meeting.

**Windmill Hill unofficial layby**

The top soil is now in place, it needs levelling - date to be arranged.

**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**

Black and white finger post, with local signage, has now been approved by the Highways Department. Jamie Harper of Alvaston Loft Conversions has kindly agreed to make the post and install it. This will be an enhancement to the island and we thank Jamie for his continued support.

### **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**

The path material has now been delivered thanks to Hilton Main Construction and supplied by Cemex Ltd. Work was carried out by the Open Spaces team and their volunteers today laying the edgings for the path. PWA arrived to help and was surprised that no pools volunteers were there, they had been informed and had also been given flyers to hand out to remind people. Everyone found this very disappointing as so much effort had been put in. Laying of the path is going ahead for this Saturday.

### **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.

### **Bryn's flagpole**

AN and FH carried out a temporary repair but a new flagpole is needed.

### **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 will start to collate a list of all our projects.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

### **Fly-tipping**

Please continue to report fly tipping and litter.

PWA reported a bulk load of fly tipped rubbish in gateway entrance between the M54 and M6 on Hobnock Road.

Although Bognop Road has generally improved, the entrance to the quarry 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 telephone call in reply to our letter informed us that the Parish Council were thinking about installing another structure in this area and at that time the monument will be repaired. It was suggested that they seek consultation from other people and groups.

## **Inappropriate Signage**

FH and AN commented on the signage around community centre and both Industrial Estates which needs tidying up and with better presentation. Points of contact to be obtained.

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

### **AGM**

Date for next AGM is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. DR has contacted South Staffs Beekeepers Association who will give a talk at our AGM.

### **Quiz Night**

The next quiz night is Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at the WMC 7.30pm £2 per person max.6 per team.

### **Hilton Green**

Apple Day Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>

Thanks to all who helped, the event was poorly attended by the public and FOE would encourage people to pay a visit as it is an asset on their doorstep. £15 was raised for FOE funds and it also raised our profile.

### **Annual meal**

To be discussed at next meeting.

### **Remembrance Service**

Volunteer still required for the presentation of our wreath.

### **Facebook**

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

## **4. Correspondence**

- WW made us aware of the November newsletter from WFEG which has been circulated to the committee.
- Ryan Taylor will inform us when he has allocated the annual bulb distribution.

## **5. Any other business**

- DR asked for ink and paper - all agreed.
- Nel Charlesworth kindly donated £20 to FOE, thank you Nel.
- The litter bin that we wanted to sponsor and had been turned down for legal reasons was reported as it was in a poor condition, it has now been replaced.
- Thanks to David Cleaver of Market Table Events for his donation of £20 raised at the Xmas Craft Fayre.
- Thanks to Janet and John for looking after the planters on the triangle having recently planted some winter bedding. Many thanks to them.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm start in Church Hall.