



Friends of Essington Meeting
9th May 2019

Present: Pete Ward, Neil Wheeldon, Clem Whittle, Jon Hanson, Tracey Taylor.

Apologies: Freddie Homer, Wayne Whitehouse, Jan Macey, Paul Woolley, Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Angie Whittle.

Record of last meeting: Approved by JH, Seconded by NW

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

Projects

Orchard

Design/graphics team are working on the art work and they will keep us informed.

Calendar 2020

PWa reminded everyone to keep taking photos.

Top of Old Hampton Lane

Meeting on site, additional material required to complete enclosure of vehicle gateway, CR to approach Council for supply. Litter pick carried out.

Bottom of Old Hampton Lane/Cannock Road

The old finger post was removed, the overhanging hedge was cut back and a small tree was planted and an area created for planting flowers. A litter pick was carried out. The help from a local resident was greatly appreciated.

Walk round our projects

Draft document approved by the 7 committee members who visited our projects.

Sponsors to be contacted highlighting some recommendations that we think will benefit the company and the FOE - action WW.

JH is continuing to compile our project list.

Future projects

Corner-Brownshore Lane area

Landowner welcomes our input and Highways Department suggested barrier be one metre from the highway.

Tyres have now been delivered, AN to look at timber bases. Need to obtain top soil.

Pools Pathway

Remaining material on the car park to be laid on Sat 11th May.

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 keep us updated.

Council web page

WW has sent reply with photographs for our inclusion on the council's web page.

2. Environmental Activities

Fly-tipping

Everyone please keep reporting. Blackhalve Lane unofficial layby seems to be a hot spot PWA suggested maybe this area could be dealt with the same as the layby at the top of Windmill Hill?

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.

Inappropriate Signage

Email from Staffs Council outlining the procedure WW/CR to reply with amendments. 1 photo of inappropriate signage to be sent as a test case.

Volunteer Hours

Hours to be recorded each month to highlight all the work we do, more information has been obtained on what hours can be included etc. and each month we should enter any hours given against the person's name and for what activity. However the annual litter pick can be included (including this years) with just a gross number of hours and people.

Wood chippings

Available from South Staffs Council as and when required.

3. Social Events and Walks

Quiz Nights

The next quiz night is TBA at the WMC 7.30pm - £2 per person - max.6 per team. Proceeds from last quiz was £66.

Essington Show Sunday May 5th

PWA and JH attended with the Golf game. A good day with plenty of visitors to Friends of Essington, a total of £67 was donated by participants.

Cherry Tree Court

JH gave a talk and slide show to the public and residents of Cherrytree Court, there was an afternoon and evening session with both being very interesting for the attendees.

AGM

A reminder to everyone that June's monthly meeting is on the 6th and our AGM is on the 13th. Chris Shaw of South Staffordshire Beekeepers Association will entertain us.

4. Correspondence

- None

5. Any other business

- JH Suggested we reintroduce our summer Parish walk to our surrounding watering holes, can be discussed at our next meeting.
- Essington in Bloom: Individual committee members can support this project.

Date of next meeting: Thursday June 6th 7.30pm start in Church Hall.

