



Friends of Essington Meeting
12th April 2018

Present: Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Pete Ward, Jan Macey, Jon Hanson, Paul Woolley, Neil Wheeldon, Tracy Taylor, Adrian Nicklin.

Apologies: Freddie Homer, Wayne Whitehouse, Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle.

Before the main meeting Councillor James Slim had asked if he could explain to the committee about Essington in Bloom - to be discussed at a later date.

Record of last meeting: Approved by NW, Seconded by PWA.

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

Projects

Ashmore Glass are going to be invited to our AGM.

Orchard

The wooden frame is now made thanks to David Walsh a volunteer at Hilton Green and the information sheet is in progress.

A Core Blimey apple tree will be planted to replace one of the original trees that did not survive. Many thanks to Howard Medicott for pruning all the trees.

Blackhalve Lane Gateway

Paul reported that he has now had a reply from the highways department. Firstly they need a traffic management officer to return to the site and feel that they will struggle to provide a village name plate and the 600mm 30mph sign and some further thought required on how to display the signs at the site. They also stated that funding had to be obtained from County Councillors. Paul has made many offers to assist with the work, very frustrating!

Bryn's flagpole

Path to be walked by the committee on Thursday April 19th 6.30pm meet on pools car park (culvert to be inspected at the same time).

Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area

Four members tidied up the area and planted whips, then at a later date further more whips were planted and the area litter picked. **Work to be continued on Saturday 21st April 8.30am.**

A further litter pick was carried out by 4 members on a very wet Saturday April 7th covering Hobnock Road when 8 bags of rubbish were collected. Thanks to everyone for all their efforts.

Calendar 2019

Reminder to keep taking photos throughout the seasons.

Future projects

FOE oak tree and time capsule to be discussed further.

Website and Event Calendar

CW and AW are continuing to update our event calendar and website.

2. Environmental Activities

Corner-Brownshore Lane area

The owner of the site now to be approached for their permission as the people renting the site don't have a problem with the proposal as long as if access was needed urgently it could be gained. NW has now produced a drawing which can be shown to all concerned. PWO to look into primer and paint.

Culvert

Site visit has been arranged for **Thursday 19th April 6.30pm** meet at pools car park.

Pools

Email received from Cemex Ltd, although we are not in their catchment area they are still looking into whether they can supply some material for the paths.

Windmill Hill unofficial layby

More top soil required CR to contact. 3 members rearranged the rubble on Saturday March 31st and litter picked the area, 2 bags of rubbish were collected which the District Council promptly collected. CR has now received a grant from the District Council for planting in this area, many thanks to them.

Fly-tipping

CR asked everyone to report driveway down the bottom end of Broad Lane that was continually full of rubbish. From this driveway down to the Staffordshire border continually being fly tipped including 4 fridges a few days ago!

JLR (corporate social responsibility)

WW has contacted Ryan Taylor and is awaiting a reply.

Spring Clean 2018

Very successful and all the helpers, supporters and sponsors were thanked in person and by email but to everyone thanks once again.

Unfortunately some rubbish was fly tipped outside the Scouts HQ and packaging with name on it was given to the driver from SSDC.

AN suggested that because of the weather this year we should move the Spring Clean to April. AN sent article for inclusion in the Review Mag. and was told they may not have the space for it and the point was made that volunteer/community groups should have a page to inform, celebrate and share their achievements and inspire others.

Everyone thanked AN for all his efforts.

A suggestion was made to target areas around the village for litter picking, informing the residents in advance to try to encourage communities to care for their own areas. An area suggested was Upper Sneyd Road, a date to be arranged.

3. Social Events and Walks

AGM Thursday 10th May 2018 - 7pm start

Michelle of the First Responders is going to speak at our AGM. Invitations to be sent out WW has contact list CR to contact WW. Everyone around the table were willing to take up same positions for the coming year. At our next meeting on **3rd May** this to be discussed in detail including refreshments etc.

Quiz Night

The last quiz night raised £49.10p - many thanks to everyone involved. The next quiz nights will be on 17th May and the 21st of June at the WMC 7.30pm £2 per person max.6 per team.

Essington Show (Willenhall Rugby Club)

Saturday 5th May 2018 FOE's only suggested involvement was our village walk (WW) however no one has taken it on board to arrange. PWA suggested we man a table with our banner and a few people around to promote the FOE. Table and gazebo may be loaned from the church PWA to contact.

Community Safety Day

Several members attended with information promoting FOE.

4. Correspondence

- Email from Ryan Taylor informing us that the *Grow Wild* seeds can be purchased with an offer of 20% off.
- Email from Keith Elder promoting their Perton Spring Festival on Saturday 12th May from 10.00am to 4.00pm.
- Email from new residents to Westcroft wishing to get involved in the community. Clem & Ange replied with a welcome to the area and gave them all our contact details.

5. Any other business

- PWA attended an exhibition about the Windmill on Windmill Hill and suggested that this may be good for a social evening in Essington, all agreed and a future date and venue to be decided.
- It was also stated that new data protection updates were due and this will be investigated and acted on accordingly.

Date of next meeting:

PLEASE NOTE - Thursday May 3rd 7.30pm start in Church Hall

AGM- Thursday May 10th 7pm start in Church Hall

