



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**14<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Present:** Adrian Nicklin, Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Pete Ward, Angie Whittle  
Clem Whittle, Wayne Whitehouse, Paul Woolley, Neil Wheeldon, Jan Macey.

**Apologies:** Freddie Homer, Tracy Taylor, Jon Hanson

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

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

**Projects**

Ashmore Glass will be invited to one of our meetings to introduce themselves.

**Fred's Bed**

A suggestion was made that we engage PWO to cut the grass on a regular basis along with areas at the side of Brownshore Crossing and the bench (which he already does). A bench was suggested near bus stop area sponsored by FOE, PWO to get prices, CR to get permission from highways department.

**Orchard**

An information board regarding the trees and general information could be erected.

**Adrian's Wall**

Local residents keen to supplement the planting - liaising with PWO.

**Brownshore Triangle**

John (local resident) asked if he could put winter plants in the planters, all agreed.

**Website and Event Calendar**

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

**Calendar 2018**

Photographs chosen for relevant months. WW still collating sponsor's logos and the photographs for the printers.

**2. Environmental Activities**

**FOE Oak tree**

Oak tree and time capsule to be discussed further.

**Litter around HA properties**

AN contacted South Staffs council who do work on behalf of the Housing Association and there are issues not covered by their maintenance work and the Housing Association deal with it themselves. However someone will contact AN to clarify.

## **Future Project**

PW suggested land at the end of Hobnock Road opposite the Methodist Chapel.

## **Rail/Transport hub - Gailey**

CR commented that it would have a disastrous environmental impact on the area and we should support Gavin Williamson MP in his opposition to the scheme. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Gavin outlining our concerns, WW to organise please emails your comments to him.

## **Hilton Green**

DR read email from Becky regarding a change of date for the official opening day it is now Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017 11-3pm and we are invited to get involved. No suggestions were made re our involvement but please try to attend individually to show our support.

## **Pools**

Project on path very successful, letter of thanks to Open Spaces team was suggested and contact to be maintained for future work.

## **Fly-tipping**

Unofficial layby top of windmill hill, Old Hampton Lane still problematic, various ideas to be considered.

The letter concerning Bognop Road has been circulated to a number of people who may have an influence. Other letters to go out to the residents of Bognop Road with covering letter read out by DR and approved, PW to organise.

## **JLR (corporate social responsibility)**

Volunteers from the above could be used in future projects but would have to be organised in advance with projected dates and the input that they could give.

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

### **Xmas Do**

Ceilidh band booked for Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>

TT and AW to organise tickets.

An environmental fayre similar to Pertons' Spring Fayre maybe in conjunction with Hilton Green, could be a future event.

### **Quiz Night**

Booked for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 start 7.30pm posters done and are on display. Some of the wine left from AGM could be used as raffle prizes.

## **4. Correspondence**

- Letter from Gavin in support of improving Bognop Road which he is taking up with the county council.

- Invitation from South Staffs to attend the community lottery launch on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 7-9pm.
- SSCVA notice of extraordinary general meeting on proposal that the charity be dissolved and the charity be transferred to Support Staffordshire. Date is Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7pm. They would be grateful if we could make the effort to attend.
- Email from Ryan Taylor offering spring bulbs, which DR accepted. To be collected.
- Email from Ryan Taylor stating a final paper will go to full council on 26<sup>th</sup> September about grounds maintenance. The details will be shared with friends groups with a hope that we may get involved. To this end a friend's group forum could be planned for late autumn.

#### 5. Any other business

- AN attended a meeting about Essington Show which is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 to be held at Willenhall Rugby Club. Do we want to be involved? Any suggestions? WW suggested our village walk.
- AN advised that spring clean will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. Litter pickers required CR will try to get some donated.
- DR asked for printer cartridges - all agreed.
- PWa commented on the proposed motorway junction with 3 alternative routes - another serious environmental impact on the area.

#### Date of next meeting:

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October: 7.30pm start in Church Hall.