



Friends of Essington Meeting
3rd May 2018

Present: Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Paul Woolley, Adrian Nicklin, Wayne Whitehouse, Clem Whittle.

Apologies: Angie Whittle, Neil Wheeldon, Tracy Taylor, Pete Ward, Jan Macey, Jon Hanson, Freddie Homer.

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

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

Projects

Orchard

The wooden information board is in progress.

A Core Blimey apple tree will be planted as a replacement.

Blackhalve Lane Gateway

Regarding reply from highways, very frustrating other suggestions made, awaiting a visit from the traffic management officer.

Bryn's flagpole

Path was walked, looks like the proposed new development in this area should not affect the public footpath to Bryn's mound. Suggestions made, kissing gate, sign, repair of old stile. PWO to contact county council public footpaths department. Should the developer be approached for funds?

Action groups

PWO commented that we are not politically biased and we should only attend these as individuals - all agreed.

Hobnock Road/Methodist Chapel area

Further work required. PWO to price and order mixed Alstroemeria.

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.

Data protection update

WW to investigate further.

2. Environmental Activities

Corner-Brownshore Lane area

Drawing now in hand awaiting contact with land owner. PWO to source paint.

Culvert

Site visited more work needed date to be arranged.

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, then planting can go ahead.

Fly-tipping

CR asked everyone to report Broad Lane that was continually full of rubbish.

JLR (corporate social responsibility)

WW has contacted Ryan Taylor and is awaiting a reply.

Spring Clean 2018

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 have been sent out. All present committee willing to stand again for another year. Refreshments discussed, tea, coffee, squash and biscuits. CW kindly offered to organise. Could committee be there for 6.30pm please, to help set up.

Windmill exhibition

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.

Quiz Night

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. CR informed everyone that the last three quiz nights had virtually paid for all of the litter picking equipment purchased, along with donations from Mann & Hummel and Tarmac making us self-sufficient for future litter picks.

Essington Show (Willenhall Rugby Club)

Saturday 5th May 2018. PWa will man a table with our banner and a few people around to promote the FOE. CR, DR, CW, AW will attend.

Essington in Bloom

Essington in Bloom was discussed and we all hoped that it would be successful. However it was felt that all our projects should be pointed out to save duplication as some of our work is not widely known. Highlight list of projects on our web site and also maybe a tour of our sites with the organisers.

4. Correspondence

5. Any other business

- AN informed us that the Royal British Legion had purchased a silent soldier (life-size silhouette) to commemorate the end of WW1 and they would like to site it on our triangle pointing towards the church. Everyone agreed, PWo to seek permission from Highways Department.
- CR informed everyone that the accounts were in hand and would be available at our AGM.
- CR & DR have been invited to join the board of Hilton Green and have accepted.

**Date of next meeting: AGM- Thursday May 10th 7pm start in Church Hall
Thursday June 14th 7.30pm**