



Friends of Essington Meeting
8th June 2017

Present: Adrian Nicklin, Colin Richards, Dot Radford, Pete Ward, Tracy Taylor, Clem Whittle, Jon Hanson, Wayne Whitehouse.

Apologies: Freddie Homer, Neil Wheeldon, Angie Whittle, Jan Macey, Paul Woolley.

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

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

Projects

The three projects (Brownshore Triangle, Blackhalve Lane Gateway and Bognop Road -Adrian's Wall) - sponsorship now in hand - signs are being made and Gateway underway. It was suggested we should all keep an interest in these projects (litter pick if necessary) and maybe visit them at intervals as we still have responsibility for them.

The triangle is well underway and John and Janet have planted the Pelargoniums and are looking after them. They initially looked leggy, this was due to over wintering, but now seem to be bushing out. It was noted that the Heuchera on the Triangle and the Cannock Road Island seem to be struggling and people wondered why. Not discussed further as PWO was not at meeting.

It was suggested that Ashmore Glass could be invited to one of our meetings to introduce themselves.

Fred's Bed

PWa previously commented about the maintenance of Fred's Bed, to be discussed with Fred.

Orchard

CR suggested an information board to be erected regarding the trees and general information. A point was made that on the day of the school fete a visit could be made to the orchard by those available.

Brownshore Crossing

Looking good, work party organised for Friday pm for tidying up and for planting wild flower plants.

Jubilee Planter and Bench

CR and DR planted over wintered Pelargoniums in Jubilee Planter and by the bench.

Website and Event Calendar

CW and AW are continuing to update our event calendar and website and they will also be submitting our inclusions for the church magazine. It was decided that the minutes of our AGM would be put on our web site.

Calendar 2018

PWA reminded everyone to continue taking photos for our 2018 calendar. The deadline for this to be our September meeting. WW offered to collate all the photographs so they need to be sent to him before August.

Sponsorship is still being pursued and CR asked for any other prospective sponsors. DR reported that Housing Plus Group are sponsoring 2 pages and have sent a cheque.

WW will be contacting sponsors for their up to date logos and information.

2. Environmental Activities

FOE Oak tree

CR suggested that a substantial oak tree could be planted somewhere appropriate with a time capsule. Everyone thought that this was a good idea and should be pursued.

Hilton Green

Everyone was encouraged to call in at Hilton Green, Monday and Friday mornings were a good time or any time that the gate is open.

Their official opening day is Saturday 14th October 2017 and they are looking for someone local and low key with the right sentiments to do the honours.

Pools

Ongoing dialogue with the works manager who assures us that things will happen eventually.

Fly-tipping

Unofficial layby top of windmill hill still problematic, various actions are being investigated.

Top of Old Hampton Lane various discussions site meeting required.

CW reported a local pothole to the Staffs County Council which has eventually been repaired.

3. Social Events and Walks

2017 entertainment - alternative to Panto

Community centre has been booked for Saturday December 9th, various ideas discussed, no definite decision made.

Regarding the re-establishment of the pantomime with either a professional company or a local Youth Theatre group WW has contacted Coppice School of Performing Arts several times and is still awaiting a reply.

An environmental fayre similar to Perton's Spring Fayre maybe in conjunction with Hilton Green, this would need a great deal of planning and would be a future event. AN suggested land at rear of club maybe a good venue for some future event.

South Staffs celebration event.

We have been invited to have a stand at a celebration event for community groups and volunteers etc. on Saturday 17th June 10am - 1pm. Unfortunately this is the same day as St John's summer fayre and the availability of people is very limited for both events.

British Legion Event.

Ricky Cool and the In Crowd on Saturday October 14th 2017 at the community centre.

Inn-trail

Friday 23rd June in Brewood. AN organising mini bus get in quick to reserve a seat.

Quiz Night

A quiz night - provisional date Thursday 28th September 2017. AN to make enquiries.

FOE AGM

AGM ran smoothly with a very interesting talk from Hilton Green directors. Everyone disappointed in lack of attendance. WW to send Ryan Taylor a copy of the minutes as he requested.

4. Correspondence

- WW received email from WFEG (Whittington and Fisherwick Environmental Group) inviting us to their AGM. Chris Baines is their speaker who should be very interesting. WW will forward email to everyone.

5. Any other business

- CR and DR attended the SSCVA Locality 3 Community Voice Forum. Interesting discussions attended by a variety of groups from South Staffordshire. SSCVA said that more support for these forums were required, CR suggested that they hold an evening event and was told that this had been tried with even poorer attendance.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 13th July: 7.30pm start in Church Hall.