



Friends of Essington Meeting
11th October 2023

Present: Wilson Taylor, Neil Wheeldon, Jon Hanson, Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle, Tracey Taylor

Apologies: Adrian Nicklin, Pete Ward (PW), Paul Woolley (PWo), Freddie Homer

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

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

Miners Monument

AN explained that full planning application has been submitted- Ongoing.
PWo to fetch broken bits from Betty Mason- Ongoing.
PWo has purchased some brick glue to allow trials to be undertaken with similar bricks.

Laptop

Ongoing.

Fred's Bed Bus Stop

Ongoing.

Constitution

A copy of the signed document has been saved on the FoE Google drive (Folder-FoE Official Documents).

New Pedestrian Gate at St Johns School

All present are very concerned at the potential for a serious injury if nothing is put in place to improve the situation.

AN and TT will continue to push the issue- Ongoing.

Calendar

Nine sponsors have now sent us their donations. Many thanks to them.
AN shared the mock up and costs via email and it was approved. He is preparing to send to the printers.

Bovis Site Improvements

NW and WT met with Daniel from Vistry. He shares our views on what work needs completing to make the public footpath area look good and easy to maintain by the gardening contractors. He will organise completion- Ongoing

NOTE: Daniel also said that the new houses on the corner are no longer going ahead. He explained that the land had been offered to St Johns Academy but they declined it. TT will discuss this with St Johns to get understanding of the facts- Ongoing

Local walks

PWo will investigate- Ongoing.

Damaged/Missing Trees

Ongoing.

Jubilee Planter

Jamie from Alvaston was due to attend meeting to discuss plans for new planter but due to the amount of committee on holiday he agreed to postpone his attendance till next meeting so he can meet whole committee.

Cannock Road Island

A small team replanted the island by splitting the mature plants. Jamie passed on his thanks and commented that it looks very good.

Method Statements for Project Work

Documents are now complete and are in process of getting laminated. They will then be attached to the equipment.

NOTE: These documents are required to meet the terms of our insurance and help keep users safe. Therefore, all users should read them before use and adhere to them during use to minimise any accidents.

Pools Monument Stone

PW mentioned that the graffiti still needs removing from the stone over the pools. AN will liaise with EPC to see if it needs professional attention- Ongoing.

Remembrance Wreath

Wreath is expected in next few days from Bloxwich British Legion branch. CW & AW are happy to attend church as usual but asked if anyone else would like to present them this year?

St Johns Academy Projects for Children

PWo suggested clearing the area over the pools in front of the commemorative benches and planting wild perennial flowers. The school children could help with the planting and then ongoing maintenance. TT communicated this and the school would be interested in pursuing this project.

Andy Morris Publicity Photograph

Andy is planned to attend the next 'wombles' event to get a few photographs

'Pools Occasionals' Magazine Article

This appeared in last church magazine and looked great. Many thanks to JH for the preparation.

Adrians Wall

Planned work was postponed to allow work on Cannock Rd Island to take place.

2. Environmental Activities

Grass cutting

No update on the EPC areas getting included in SSDC budget- Ongoing.

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

Next quiz nights: 25th October & 15th November at Working Men's Club.

4. Correspondence

- An email was received from Dulcie Williams (a resident of Cherry Tree Court) offering help but due to mobility issues she can only do 'sitting down jobs'. It was suggested that CW replies asking if she could coordinate selling the calendars at Cherry Tree Court.

5. Finance

Bank Balance

Balance and recent transactions shared with the committee.

Expenditure

The following expenses were approved for payment:

- Printing costs for calendar
- GoDaddy invoice due for 'Domain Renewal'.

6. Any other business

- AW asked if we had any plans for Blackhalve Gateway as it looks unimpressive in current state. To be discussed at next meeting.
- FH suggested that the Pools nest boxes require their yearly maintenance shortly. NW to ask volunteers for availability.

Date of next meeting- 8th November, 7.00pm Council Chambers