



Friends of Essington Meeting
10th January 2024

Present: Wilson Taylor, Neil Wheeldon, Tracey Taylor, Pete Ward (PW), Jon Hanson, Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle, Adrian Nicklin, Freddie Homer

James Parker (EPC member attending as guest), Jamie Harper (Alvaston-Sponsor of projects)

Apologies: Paul Woolley (PWo)

Record of last meeting: Approved by WT Seconded by PW

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

Miners Monument

The planning permission is progressing with 18th Jan as forecast completion date. Discussion took place about feasibility of selling bricks with names in of miners to raise funds. Ongoing.

Laptop

CW is ok to use own equipment. JH would like some equipment to help presenting quizzes. AN offered a PC he has spare which JH will evaluate.

Fred's Bed Bus Stop

AN has replied to Kath Perry. Ongoing.

New Pedestrian Gate at St Johns School

The whole committee would like to register their ongoing concern over safety issues and the lack of interest shown by the parties that are involved in this!! TT will raise the issue again.

Update- The new Puffin crossing is now in place outside the other school entrance.

Calendar

Some money still outstanding. NW will provide full financial update for next meeting.

Bovis Site Improvements

NW sent further letter to Daniel at Vistry. He has since replied to explain he hopes to see the work completed soon as part of the Steadings close out work. NW sent a further letter explaining the path leading to Hobnock Road needs completing as it ends just before the hedge currently.

Local walks

Ongoing.

Damaged/Missing Trees

Missing trees (actually 'whips' which were very fragile) details given to PWO by NW. PWO will contact Forest of Mercia to see if it is possible to get replacements

Jubilee Planter

Excellent discussion took place with Jamie. He has offered both material and the use of his yard. PW and AN to visit Jamie at his workshop to see the material and proceed with designs. Many Thanks to Jamie.

Pools Monument Stone

AN to investigate obtaining new more robust signage.

St Johns Academy Projects for Children

Spring project-Ongoing.

Blackhalve Lane Gateway

Jamie offered material to construct new boxes for this area.

Google Drive

Agreed that FoE bank details would be used on the Google account. It was stressed that even if a committee member has full access to the Drive, they should NEVER purchase from the Google store.

Additional Policy Creation

WT has offered to contact Anne Saxon at Support Staffordshire to discuss missing policies required.

Visit to Four Ashes Waste Disposal Plant

NW to make contact explaining we have interest from 12-15 people dependant on when the visit is possible.

Fruit Trees at Pools

NW suggested we cut back overgrowth around fruit trees at pedestrian entrance to pools by carpark. Agreed this is a job for later this year.

Lifesaver Ropes for Brownshore Pools Area

AN to make enquiries if a similar scheme operates in our area.

Missing Wulfrun Way Signage

AN has previously contacted the paths officer with no success but he will try again.

2. Environmental Activities

None currently active

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

Next quiz 21st February.

4. Correspondence

- Christmas card from the scouts thanking FoE for help during the year.

5. Finance

Bank Balance

Balance and recent transactions shared with the committee.

Expenditure

- Nothing presented for approval

6. Any other business

- AN discussed the Spring Clean which is planned for 13th April.
- It was discussed about the fence damage both at the top of High Hill open area and around the 'village green' on Wolverhampton Road. PW and NW to visit the areas and then NW will write to EPC asking for action.
- PWO asked people to think of areas where new trees could be planted in conjunction with Forest of Mercia.
- The resident of Cherry Tree Court (Dulcie) who sold our calendars on site, asked if it was possible for anyone to do a litter pick around their building. The wombles will do it on their next meet.

Date of next meeting- 14th February, 7.00pm Council Chambers