



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Present:** Pete Ward (PWa), Jon Hanson, Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle, Adrian Nicklin, Wilson Taylor, Tracey Taylor,

**Apologies:** Neil Wheeldon, Freddie Homer, Paul Wooley (PWo)

**Record of last meeting:** Approved by AN, Seconded by TT

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

**Miners Monument**

Design received from Engineer with a much higher cost than expected. Various options discussed regarding the structural calculations and possible solutions. Ongoing.

Note: AN is being pushed for a finish date by Housing Plus due to their donation to the project.

**Fred's Bed Bus Stop**

Council have agreed to move the bus stop to the lamp post on the car park area outside St Johns church. The lamp post has been replaced. The bus stop flag now needs to be relocated. AN continues to press forward with this. Thanks to Ade.

**Bovis Site Improvements**

The Stile has been opened up with the consent of the Bovis management contact. All other actions, including fitting a suitable kissing gate, are outstanding.

**Local walks**

Ongoing PWo.

**Jubilee Planter**

New design completed by AN taking into account Jamies comments. AN has discussed the revised plan with Jamie. AN is waiting for Jamie's response.

**Pools Monument Stone**

PWa has obtained a stainless-steel blank. AN will liaise with him about engraving. Ongoing.

**Blackhalve Lane Gateway**

As per Jubilee Planter.

### **Additional Policy Creation**

It was discussed, and subsequently agreed, that the Data Controller Role should be part of the secretary's function for the GDPR policy.

The Safe Guarding policy needs to have a single committee member as the designated person.

### **Lifesaver Ropes for Brownshore Pools Area**

This item is now with EPC to progress as they feel appropriate. AN has passed this to James.

### **Missing Wulfrun Way Signage**

Relevant department have confirmed they have a replacement sign which they plan to install in future. Ongoing. FoE will install the sign, AN to make the arrangements.

### **Fence Damage**

Replacing the posts on High Hill has started. The first four posts and associated horizontal bars have been completed. Next event will be on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Thanks to Paul for his leadership on this matter.

### **Tree Planting Areas (behind the allotments)**

Dave Knowles and Kat from Forest of Mercia are very happy with the site and will produce a project plan. Ongoing

### **Maintenance Schedule for Projects**

Ongoing.

### **Staffordshire Lottery**

NW has setup the account. CW & AW will check out what is required to use the lottery to support FoE.

### **AGM**

Due to unavailability of the current officials for the May meeting, it was unanimously agreed to hold the AGM at the meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>. CW to communicate this via next Parish Magazine article.

A short summary from each committee member of their FoE related activities for since the last AGM to be submitted for inclusion in the AGM minutes. Jon will report on Quizzes and Wombles.

Note; Jon is not able to attend the AGM, however he has expressed his willingness to be on the committee for another year.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

None currently active

### **3. Social Events**

#### **Quiz Nights**

Next quiz 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Essington WMC as usual.

### **4. Correspondence**

- Letter from Gavin thanking us for his invite to litter pick
- Email from Support Staffs for Dementia Well-being week & Volunteer awards
- Email from Hilary at Veolia explaining available grants to apply for. Circulated it but it is not relevant to our projects.
- PWA to follow-up on an email received regarding the white line road markings at Broad Lane/Old Landywood Lane.

### **5. Finance**

#### **Bank Balance**

Balance and recent transactions shared with the committee via email from NW.

#### **Expenditure**

No items presented for approval

#### **Year End Accounts**

NW's neighbour, who is a qualified accountant, has audited and signed off the accounts. A full information pack will be provided at the AGM.

### **6. Any other business**

- AN suggested FoE could hold a small social event both for entertainment and maybe an opportunity to generate some additional funds. AN to investigate possible bands.
- Next Wombles event is planned to be 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**Date of next meeting- 12<sup>th</sup> June, 7.00pm Council Chambers - following the AGM**