



**Friends of Essington Meeting**  
**17<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Present:** Pete Ward (PWa), Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle, Freddie Homer, Wilson Taylor, Paul Woolley (PWo), Jon Hanson

**Apologies:** Adrian Nicklin, Tracey Taylor, Neil Wheeldon,

**Record of last meeting:** Approved by FH, Seconded by AW

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

**Miners Monument**

AN has spoken to Alan Degg as he has built things like this in the past. Alan Degg will investigate possible ways to construct the monument support and reply to AN. Ongoing

**Jubilee Planter**

Wood has been cut to size and dry assembled. AN to set-up a follow-up visit to Jamie's workshop to complete the machining work on the wood. Alvaston need an expected completion date.

**Pools Monument Stone**

AN has a quote for the engraving of the replacement plaque (an VAT invoice is required for EPC to pay the expense).

**Not discussed at meeting - Can someone remove the old plaque please.**

Ongoing.

**Blackhalve Lane Gateway**

As per Jubilee Planter.

**Fence Damage**

Final full session completed the major replacement of the fence. A further post is to be installed to form a narrower entrance to prevent unauthorised access. PWo, PWa and NW will do this.

**Staffordshire Lottery**

AW, CW and NW are preparing an article for the church magazine. JH will also promote the Lottery at the Quiz Nights.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

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

Layout plan has been received from Forest of Mercia, very comprehensive plan. PWO will present the plan to the PC.

Note after meeting - AN suggested PWO talk to the Rugby Club before talking to the PC as they are about to extend the car park which may affect the plan.

## **3. Social Events**

### **Quiz Nights**

Next quizzes 24<sup>th</sup> July and 4<sup>th</sup> September at Essington WMC as usual.

### **Local walks**

PWO proposed a walk from Wombourne Railway Station Car Park to Compton on SS Railway Walk and return on canal towpath. Dates to be discussed at next meeting but the expectation is that the walk will take place in September.

## **4. Correspondence**

- Monthly bulletin received from SupportStaffordshire and circulated to everyone.
- Request from SupportStaffordshire to fill in a census form. Form to be completed by NW.
- Zurich have been in touch to say insurance is due 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. AN has mentioned the EPC insurance should cover FoE needs. NW to follow-up.

## **5. Finance**

### **Bank Balance**

Latest Bank Statement shared with the committee by NW.

### **Expenditure**

No new expenditure.

### **Insurance Renewal**

Zurich have been in touch to say insurance is due 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. AN has mentioned the EPC insurance should cover FoE needs. NW to follow-up.

## **6. Any other business**

- Next Wombles event is planned to be 24<sup>th</sup> July.
- JH asked for the path from the RC to Blackhalve Lane to be cut back.
- Bottom of New St and the bottom of Brownshore Lane (including the area around the finger post, as requested by AW & CW) to be cut back on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, from 9:00AM.
- FW asked if the saplings at the crossing can be removed. PWa will see what he can do.
- AW & CW asked if the area around the bench on Windmill Hill can be cut back. It is not possible to see the bench due to the overgrowth. JH will ask Anna if she can cut the overgrowth back.
- NW proposed adding the bin collection dates to the 2025 Calander, he also circulated a mock-up of what it might look like prior to the meeting. Initial thoughts at the meeting were positive however, following further discussion a couple of points surfaced, i.e. what happens if the bin schedule is changed by the council part way through the year? and how do people know which rota they are on, A or B? Further discussion required at next meeting.

**Date of next meeting - 14<sup>th</sup> August, 7.00pm Council Chambers**