



Friends of Essington Meeting
11th September 2024

Present: Pete Ward (PWa), Neil Wheeldon, Clem Whittle, Angie Whittle, Paul Woolley (PWo),

Apologies: Freddie Homer, Wilson Taylor, Jon Hanson, Adrian Nicklin, Tracey Taylor

Record of last meeting: Approved by CW, Seconded by PWa

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

Miners Monument

Meeting took place on 18th August with Alan Degg, PWa, PWo & AN to discuss project. Alan is very keen to assist with this project and will start by preparing foundations.

Jubilee Planter

PWo organised visit to carpenters' shop for 12th September to finish cutting of all timber. PWa and NW to assist.

Pools Monument Stone

Old plaque has been removed by PWa and NW. Plaque was bedded on filler which has also been removed. AN has obtained quote for engraving new stainless-steel blank.

Blackhalve Lane Gateway

As per Jubilee Planter.

Fence Damage

Final post is to be installed to form a narrower entrance to prevent unauthorised vehicle access. PWo, PWa and NW will do this on 14th September. This should complete the project.

Staffordshire Lottery

So far £27.50 has been raised and paid into our bank account. JH published the lottery at the last quiz.

Brownshore Crossing

PWo removed the saplings as requested by FH. Thanks Paul.

Windmill Bench

Bench just needs a coat of varnish. Ongoing.

Calendar

AN will begin to contact businesses to obtain sponsors (at increased fee of £75). JH has contacted Kirsty Brown requesting permission to use pictures from the 'Essington pools and its wildlife' Facebook page. All contributors have agreed we can use them for the calendar as desired.

Remembrance Day Wreath

AW contacted RBL about Wreath design. Ongoing.

2. Environmental Activities

Tree Planting Areas (behind the allotments)

PWo has spoken with the Rugby club and they are going to discuss at their next meeting. Next stage will be then for all involved parties to meet to finalise details.

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

Next quizzes 2nd October & 6th November at Essington WMC as usual.

Local walks

PWo has scheduled the walk for Saturday 5th October at 9.30am meeting at The Platform Café, Bratch Lane, Wombourne WV4 4HJ. Walk is approximately 6.5 miles. CW will communicate via the volunteer WhatsApp group inviting people to participate. PWo would like people to confirm attendance so he can notify café to reserve tables for pre-walk refreshments.

4. Correspondence

- None received.

5. Finance

Bank Balance

Latest Bank Statement shared with the committee by NW.

Expenditure

CW presented 'GoDaddy' invoice for reimbursement.

Insurance Renewal

NW has renewed and forwarded invoice to EPC for a contribution. It will be discussed at this month's council meeting.

6. Any other business

- FH asked for dates to be proposed for cleaning bird boxes. Date will be finalised at next meeting when more people are present and current activities are complete.
- PWO presented details about a local Canal boat trip which could make a good social event for next year.
- NW to contact James to see if he has a replacement flag (or details so we can purchase one) for Bryn's flagpole.
- It has been communicated by Sue Nicklin that due to Adrians's health issues she has cancelled the upcoming Carl Sinclair event.
- NW will formalise the equipment training log for insurance requirements.

Date of next meeting - 9th October, 7.00pm Council Chambers