



Friends of Essington Meeting **12th November 2025**

Present: Paul Woolley (PWo), Tracey Taylor, Fred Homer, Pete Ward (PWa), Wilson Taylor, Clem Whittle, James Parker (Essington Parish Councillor)

Apologies: Ann Clay, Neil Wheeldon, Jon Hanson, Angie Whittle

Record of last meeting:

Approved by CW, Seconded by PWa

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

Miners Monument

Construction continues with approximately 50% completion of the monument. The bricklayer may be on site again soon, however the weather continues to be very wet which might slow progress.

There is £1976 left in the budget for this project. There are no concerns regarding keeping within budget.

WT and PWo are working on the "letter to the future" for the time capsule. James Parker provided material relating to mining in Essington which will be used to compile a potted history of mining for inclusion in the time capsule.

Calendar

NW (via notes to the meeting) explained that there are still three sponsors yet to pay, these will be chased up.

PWa has distributed the calendars. He also arranged the delivery of the sponsors calendars via himself and other attendees.

Attendance to sell calendars at the following additional events has been confirmed:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
Cherry Tree	22/11/25	CW & AW
Fruit Farm	22/11/25	PWa & PWo
1911 Café	30/11/25	PWa & WT
ERC	14/12/25	PWo & Wendy

TT reported that the St John's School Christmas Fayre has been cancelled due to lack of interest from enough parents on the PTA.

Future Generation Orchard (St Johns Academy)

Howard has offered his knowledge and time to prune the trees ready for next year. TT and NW have been in communication with the school. A guided walk is being planned for the teachers to see the resource with the aim of the school making more use of it. Foe will guide the walk. Date is to be confirmed.

PWo will arrange a new sign over the coming months in conjunction with our printer contact.

PWo proposed the purchase of a replacement Victoria Plum tree (~£60-70). This was agreed.

Wombles Litter Picks

JH explained that the litter picks are getting more people attending. He will continue to coordinate future events.

JH will coordinate attendees for the SSDC 'Thank your' event.

Next Litter Pick 20th November 25.

Brownshore Triangle 'Finger Post'

PWo has received the completed sign and is storing it awaiting installation.

Unfortunately, the 'S' is missing from 'Pools'. PWa has offered to carve and colour the missing letter.

NW has purchased the godfather posts in readiness.

PWo will coordinate installation date in the near future.

Brownshore Crossing

Ongoing: It was suggested that a deadhead and weed is required. PWo will apply weedkiller to tidy up area.

Annual Spring Clean

JH has agreed to coordinate the annual Spring Clean. Date is to be agreed.

2. Environmental Activities

Tree Planting Areas (behind the allotments)

Ongoing: JH and others continue to monitor damage and repair if possible. JH explained that some new canes are required and he will liaise with PWo to obtain these.

PWo has requested 420 replacement trees from the Woodland Trust.

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

Next quiz nights are on Wednesdays 21st January 2026 and 18th February 2026 at the Working Men's Club.

4. Correspondence

None

5. Finance

Bank Balance

Latest Bank Statement and recent transactions were shared with the committee by PWO (from notes by NW).

Expenditure

- Additional materials to be purchased for the miner's monument (covered by the council grant which NW will continue to track).
- Materials to be obtained for installation of fingerpost.

6. Any other business

- AW presented the wreath at the village Armistice Service; Thank you AW.
- The annual Bird Box clean has been completed. An updated risk assessment and method statement have been completed. See the shared drive for these. Thanks to FH for arranging with GP Timber Supplies for wood for new bird boxes. NW is in the process of building the new boxes.
- James P asked if any of FoE would do a 5-10min speech at the annual community service awards, highlighting our activities.
- The flag on Bryn's Mount needs replacing. James P to ask Louise to order a new one.
- Pavement on Brownshore Lane, by the pools, to be cleared on 29th November, meeting at 9:00AM in the car park.
- PWA asked for suggestions of venue for our annual meal.
- NW is preparing a grant application form for ongoing support from EPC.

Date of next meeting - 10th December at 7.00pm in Council Chambers