



## **Friends of Essington Meeting** **6th May 2026**

**Present:** Neil Wheeldon, Pete Ward (PWa), James Parker (Essington Parish Councillor), Jon Hanson, Steve Jones, Wilson Taylor, Tracey Taylor, Paul Woolley (PWo), Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Fred Homer, Paul Bosworth (volunteer)

**Apologies:** Ann Clay,

### **Record of last meeting:**

AW mentioned a slight inaccuracy regarding the miner's monument plaque. The equipment used was his own sited in his garage. However, he still wanted the donation to go to Chasewater Narrow Gauge Railway where he volunteers. Saved copy corrected and updated.

Approved by PWa Seconded by SJ

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

#### **Miners Monument**

- The engraved plaque was polished by NW and anodising organised by PWa. PWa will clarify what the cost for undertaking the anodising is.
- A small team cleaned up the area. The fencing and rubble have been removed and weeding completed.
- JP raised the point that FoE should have a sign on the monument recognising that they erected the monument. To be discussed further.
- FH also explained that the Community Service team will also help maintain the area when they attend the Church site.
- Ongoing-Alan Degg will look into creating a path etc around the monument once year end works reduce at his business.

#### **Future Generation Orchard (St Johns Academy)**

- TT explained that the tree felling work has been completed. The responsible teacher has confirmed her desire for us to assist in the upkeep of the area to ensure it is used by the pupils.

#### **Wombles Litter Picks**

- JH explained that he has a meeting with Ryan to follow up on the fly tipping prosecution issues. PWo and PWa will also attend.
- NW contacted Ryan regarding villagers assisting with the cost of a CCTV camera for use in Essington, but no reply has been received.

- A small team repaired the fence where the frequent fly tipping is carried onto the pools land. Hopefully this will reduce this issue, and if it does happen it will be on SSDC land so collection can be arranged.
- Next Litter Pick will be confirmed by JH by the usual 'WhatsApp' group.

#### **Brownshore Triangle 'Finger Post'**

- PWO has ordered some plants for the planters.
- No reply has yet been received from Belvoir regarding a meeting to discuss sponsorship.

#### **Brownshore Crossing**

- FH and JP tidied this area.
- FH and JP explained that upon closer inspection they believe the sleepers will last a while longer so replacement is not required yet.

#### **Annual Spring Clean**

- JH explained that the injury involved glass protruding through a single black bag. He will update the guidelines to suggest people use double bags to reduce this risk.
- JH has produced updated litter picking guidelines which everyone should read and provide feedback.

#### **Brownshore Lane Pavement**

- PWA has reattached several of the cross rails to improve the appearance. He explained that many of the posts are leaning and ideally require work to straighten/strengthen.
- A discussion was held and PWO will acquire some cranked supports to bypass the concrete foundations, to evaluate the idea.

#### **Committee Social Event**

- Canal barge trip organised for 25<sup>th</sup> July. PWO can't attend so PWA will coordinate collection of money etc.

## **2. Environmental Activities**

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

- PWO discussed with the Rugby club about a less secluded location for the sign. This was agreed and PWO and PWA have subsequently installed the sign.
- Several people expressed how healthy the trees are looking.

## **3. Social Events**

#### **Quiz Nights**

- Next quiz night is on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at the Working Men's Club. The following one will be 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

#### **4. Correspondence**

- None received

#### **5. Finance**

##### **Bank Balance**

- Latest Bank Statement and recent transactions were shared with the committee by NW.

##### **Expenditure**

- Plants for planters @ Triangle
- Donation of £100 to be made to Chase Railway as discussed earlier.

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

- PWO explained that the band he attempted to book for a social event at the community centre are to cease. Therefore, he will contact a recommended alternative.
- PWA suggested that FoE thanks Jamie for how much time and care he takes keeping the Alvaston Loft sponsored areas looking good. NW to send a thank you email.
- A discussion was had about the role the volunteers would take at the upcoming EzzFest event. PWO will contact Warren for clarification.

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