



Friends of Essington Meeting **8th July 2026**

Present: Pete Ward (PWa), James Parker (Essington Parish Councillor), Paul Woolley (PWo), Angie Whittle, Clem Whittle, Ann Clay, Neil Wheeldon, Jon Hanson, Steve Jones

Apologies: Wilson Taylor, Tracey Taylor, Fred Homer, Paul Bosworth (Volunteer)

Record of last meeting:

Approved by PWa Seconded by AC

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

Miners Monument

- JP raised the point that FoE should have a sign on the monument recognising that they erected the monument. The committee were grateful for this suggestion but it was agreed that they didn't feel further recognition was needed.
- Ongoing-Alan Degg will look into creating a path etc around the monument once year end works reduce at his business. Alan Degg and Essington Surfacing are looking at a possible proposal regarding a path.

Future Generation Orchard (St Johns Academy)

- PWa and PWo attended the area and strimmed it back.
- PWo later met with the reception class teacher and took the class around the orchard. Some of the trees were in fruit and the children were really impressed with the area. There seems to be a refreshed interest in the benefit of this special area.
- PWo explained that discussion was had during the visit about cutting back the overhead canopy and reducing the height of the hedge to make it more accessible and welcoming. PWo will reach out to contractors to discuss.
- A replacement sign for the entrance is underway. Discussion was had about repositioning the sign to make it more prominent.

Wombles Litter Picks

- Next Litter Pick will be confirmed by JH by the usual 'WhatsApp' group.

Brownshore Triangle

- Replacement plants are now in place. Currently the area looks 'untidy', however this is a result of us allowing the wildflowers to bloom for the benefit of pollinators. Ongoing.
- NW and PWO met with Belvoir to discuss their sponsorship of the island. They seem keen and both parties agreed next steps and NW documented and circulated them. Further updates will be shared as progress develops.

Brownshore Lane Pavement

- PWO investigated an option but it didn't appear to be adequate for the task. He will continue to source a better option.

Committee Social Events

- Canal barge trip organised for 25th July. All monies paid. Event starts at 9.30 at the canal boat mooring.

EzzFest

- JP explained that a 'lessons learned' meeting is planned and the FoE volunteers are keen to attend and share their views.

Broad Lane Planter

- AC is attending to this area. PWO has new plants which will be planted once the hot spell subsides.

Strimming/Hedge cutting

- Fingerpost at junction of High Hill and Kitchen Lane. Planned for 18th July
- Footpath to Steadings estate. Completed
- Windmill Hill Bench. JH plans to do in the near future
- New St entrance to the pools. Completed

2. Environmental Activities

None

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

- Next quiz night is on Wednesday 22nd July 2026 at the Working Men's Club. Further dates are under discussion with the club.

Fundraising night

- PWO has contacted a band suggested by Ricky Cool called "Midnight City Soul Band". They cost £550 for the evening. They have been booked for 27th February but PWO is just waiting on confirmation hall is available for that date, when clerk returns from holiday.

4. Correspondence

- None received

5. Finance

Bank Balance

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

Expenditure

- PWO to purchase some fuel for the Stihl power tools.

6. Any other business

- FH, JP and others attended the Ex-Railway Crossing on Brownshore and tidied it up.
- NW mentioned the village sign for Wombourne village. It has an added feature on it which looks very striking. He will contact Ryan for advice on how this is facilitated.



- CW & AW will mention in next magazine the deadline for pictures to be considered for the calendar is fast approaching.

Date of next meeting - 12th August at 7.00pm in Council Chambers