



Friends of Essington Meeting **10th June 2026**

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

Apologies: Neil Wheeldon, Jon Hanson, Steve Jones

Record of last meeting:

Approved by PWa Seconded by CW

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

Miners Monument

- The plaque has been installed by NW.
- JP raised the point that FoE should have a sign on the monument recognising that they erected the monument. To be discussed further.
- The Community Service team have begun helping to 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. Alan Degg and Essington Surfacing are looking at a possible proposal regarding a path.
- PWo to review and remove, as required, the notices in the Parish Notice Board near the monument.

Future Generation Orchard (St Johns Academy)

- FoE have not received any feedback from the school regarding our involvement with the upkeep of the FGO. TT will message Grace to try to elicit a response.
- PWo reported that the trees are doing well with blossom and fruiting beginning.
- A replacement sign at the entrance to FGO is on the way.

Wombles Litter Picks

- A meeting took place between PWo, JH, PWa, Ryan and Rachel Porter (legal representative of SSDC). A fuller understanding now exists of the high bar of evidence needed for prosecution of littering and fly tipping. Evidence must be "Beyond Reasonable Doubt".
- 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.
- Belvoir seem keen to sponsor the Triangle with a meeting being arranged between PW, NW and Belvoir.

Brownshore Lane Pavement

- PWo has found an alternative support/supplier at a cost of £40/6pcs. Approved for PWo to obtain a sample 6 pcs for evaluation.

Committee Social Events

- Canal barge trip organised for 25th July. PWo can't attend so PWa will coordinate collection of money etc. PWa will be in touch with attendees.

Alvaston Lofts

- 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. - Completed

EzzFest

- The attended volunteers felt they had contributed to the smooth running of the car parking. In excess of £150 was voluntarily donated to the group by the public. The volunteers have raised a few improvements for next EzzFest event.

2. Environmental Activities

3. Social Events

Quiz Nights

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

Fundraising night

- PWo has contacted a band suggested by Ricky Cool called "Midnight City Soul Band". They cost £550 for the evening. Possible dates are 6th or 20th February 2027. PWo to check venue availability and book if possible. Sue Nicklin is happy to sort out the tickets as she has done for past events.

4. Correspondence

- None received

5. Finance

Bank Balance

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

Expenditure

- PWo may purchase plants for gateways and Broad Lane planters
- Donation of £100 made to Chase Railway as discussed earlier - Completed
- £40 for sample supports

6. Any other business

- AC is keeping an eye on the Broad Lane planter. PWo is purchasing more plants.
- Strimming/tidying up required at:
 - Finger Post at junction of High Hill with Kitchen Lane
 - Footpath to Steadings Estate from Brownshore Lane
 - The Gateway
 - Windmill Hill bench
 - New St entrance to the Pools - meeting at 2PM on Friday, 12th June.

Date of next meeting - 8th July at 7.00pm in Council Chambers