

FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK (Reg. Charity No. 1144988)

Minutes of Meeting held May 22nd at Towneley Hall

Present: Linda White, Grayson Holden, Keith Buchanan, Pat Ashton, Pete Ashton, Ronnie Pollard, Maureen Frankland, Margaret Crane, Richard Moss, Pat Colbran, Susan Barker, John Nuttall, Adam Walmsley

Apologies: Jackie Hindle-Ssouth, Keith Wilson, P. Wilkinson, J Pritchard, Ian Walton, V. Dewhurst.

After the meeting: Alex McDonagh

Minutes / Matters arising

Minutes of March 23rd meeting accepted with one amendment: Bird feeding (6b) should read, "Pat Colbran to buy bird feeders for Winter".

Bridge at Wetland delayed. On September 28th there will be a workday organised by Vicky Dewhurst involving young people and perhaps do the bridge work then. Time yet to be decided. FOTP members to help if possible.

Deer Park Noticeboard - Pat Colbran put in a successful bid for £300 from Ward Councillors for this – Graham to provide content when he has time. Graphics will design it.

Puppet Theatre -- now in cellar and can be accessed when needed.

Poppy seed scattering is now completed for Little Children Weak World War 1 project.

Key for noticeboards replaced by Graham and now in M. Frankland's possession.

Heritage and Woodland meeting with S.Goff and A.Buck now been cancelled twice.

Treasurers report: Richard Moss (new treasurer) presented report. He now has accounts. Pat Colbran will pay cash into the account and pass paying in slips to Richard and Cynthia. Accounts since last meeting: Paid £14.31 for leaflets, Paid £500 for Bench and Brass Band concert. Plant sale / Bric a Brack/ Raffle on May day realised £177.10, Scooter donations £17.00 , Easter Day raised £154.80 and notelet sales £14.00.

Officers report: All knot weed sites we are aware of have been treated including the one at Applecross Drive. Football season slightly extended this year. Shield Bed commemorating Anniversary 1914 WW1 been cut and in process of being planted. Race for life on 15th June and Classis Car event on 29th June both imminent.

Adam Walmsley: from Ribble Rivers Trust, reported on Invasive Species. Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed both to be controlled by spraying, pulling, and cutting where appropriate. Adam to talk to Steve Woods to find out where park staff are dealing with these and liaise with them to work together. Ribble Rivers Trust may be able to print more of our Himalayan Balsam leaflets for distribution to public. Susan agreed to pass leaflet in pdf form to Adam. Maureen to meet Adam, to pass on black polythene bags for collecting pulled balsam, to identify bags already in place, and to agree way forward.

Mike Townend was invited in to the meeting to tell us about the new plans for commemorative crosses and poppies. These are now to be laid by children at the Cenotaph in Towneley Park. However, shortly afterwards they need to be moved to a more permanent position in borders adjacent to Holmes Road. No contingency plans from Council were evident to show how this will be done. It was apparently envisaged that FOTP and others would volunteer. However this is a very big task (4000 crosses to be "planted") and it was felt by the group that we did not want the responsibility to carry this out. Our input originally was to involve the children in the laying of the crosses. Any individual members of FOTP group who would like to

volunteer some time for this task were very welcome to do so. Several did so. Pat Ashton agreed to e mail addresses of willing volunteers to Mike Townend.

Feedback from previous activities:

Easter Day went very well. It was decided that the group should charge £1 per child in future so that costs are covered and some profit is made.

May day – It was suggested we have a Tombola instead of a raffle in future as we find it a little embarrassing to tout the tickets for a raffle but tombola would be more engaging for the public. It was suggested that we had too many activities to attend to for the number of volunteers available. We should prioritise and promote more money making activities such as Tombola and plant sales next year.

HLF leaflets - “Towneley – The Changing Landscape” - were given out to all . memebtrs encouraged to distribute to people who they thought would be interested. Leaflets are now available in Foyer and Rotunda. Maureen has the remaining 10 boxes at her home.

Gardening club meets next Thursday 5th June 2014.

Newsletters – still some available, but the majority have been distributed and have been well received.

We need to think about items for next newsletter – items : Changing Landscapes leaflet : Comments from Lower Burgh Visit: Photos and comments from the Celebration on June 29th: Mike Townend update. Important to include new Hall closing and Opening times for the winter.

Present/Future activities:

Plant sales from the Italian Gardens raised £30 so far. (Now raised £150 by June 2nd)

June 1st, visit by Burgh Conservative Group – 9 people volunteered for tea/coffee making. Thanks to P&P for buying 2 new teapots

June 8th – Brass Band Concert, again volunteers needed to do biscuits, cake and tea from 2pm – 4pm
Volunteers to arrive for 1.30pm. Any homemade cakes will be welcome.

June 29th HLF Celebrations. Invitations distributed to FOTP members at the meeting. 70 invitations being sent out by Maureen. **Replies needed by June 18th**. Walks at 2pm. Tea and scones and display of materials at Stables café at 3.30pm. Replies to Maureen by June 18th. NB May have to Park at Riverside as Classic Car Show starts at 11am.

Alex McDonagh contacted after the meeting re his summer walk.

Summer Walks already arranged. Posters in notice boards by mid June. June 29th: July 13th: August 10th ; August 24th. All 2pm at Rotunda.

Heritage and Woodland - September 15th– provisional arrangements made to do drinks, biscuits and cakes for this. Maureen to contact Simon/Andy re date for planning meeting.

Bonfire - No meeting yet regarding this. – as above.

December 14th decided on for Father Christmas in the Park. Maureen to confirm with Ken Darwen.

Next Meeting Wednesday July 23rd at 10 a.m.

Contacts: Chairperson, Maureen Frankland (432423) e-mail maureenfrankland159@btinternet.com

Secretary, Linda White (453328) lindawhite793@btinternet.com

Volunteers: Sunday June 8th : Susan Barker: Pat and Pete Ashton: John Nuttall: Keith Buchanan: Sylvia and John Hagan: Ronnie Pollard: Grayson Holden: Linda White: Margaret Crane: Richard and Cynthia Moss: Maureen Frankland and Andrew Johnson. Anyone else welcome to come and help.

Little Children Weak - Susan Barker: Ronnie Pollard: Pat and Pete Ashton: Maureen Frankland – if with school children: Pat Colbran.

Himalayan Balsam Picking : Pat and Pete Ashton: Keith Buchanan, Maureen Frankland, Andrew Johnson.