



Fairfield Village Community Association

Monday 3rd November 2018, 10.00am

Venue: Fairfield Village Hall

Present: Susan Wilkes, Ann Ince, Carol Brogan, Averil Perks, Janice Boswell MBE, Ian Tisdale, Sheila Bretherton, Pat Turbutt, Robert Garvin, Conrad Palmer, Linda Garvin, Mary Gibbs, Brenda Thomas, Trevor Jones, Josie Albutt, Carole Morris, & Pam Jones

1. Apologies

Patricia Steward, Carol Edwards, John Coldicott, Rita Spense, Alan Mabbett, Pauline Boulton & Brenda Clarke

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

3. Chair's Monthly Report/Update on Issues

Bromsgrove Advertiser

Can be picked up from the Post Office, usually by Thursday afternoons.

Café - New Hours

(Facebook Post 18th October)

Monday - Friday	8am - 2pm
Saturday	Closed

(Since the meeting, Café has published a further note on Facebook, 7th November, saying that Café opening hours have changed to 9am – 3pm)

Swan Inn

Pub now open from 11.30am

Village Hall

Now has Wi-Fi

4. Neighbourhood Watch

Cold Call Scam Alert.

One of our residents have received a cold call from “Community Safety Group” to arrange a home visit to discuss home security improvements.

Fortunately, this resident was clued up and asked the right questions and did not agree to an appointment. The call has been reported to the police.

Please pop round to your elderly and vulnerable neighbours, making them aware and asking them to remain vigilant.

Any calls received to be terminated. Dial 1471 and report to the Information Commissioner Office.

Scam Alert

If you receive a call from HMRC and they tell you that you owe money, it's a SCAM. The caller will say you'll go to court if it isn't paid. Don't believe them, don't call back. HMRC will always write to you. Contact Action Fraud to report it.

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

October Incidents

Vehicle Crime - A491 near Stoneybridge roundabout: About 10pm on Saturday 6th October, a secure blue coloured VW Passat car was stolen without keys from a layby beside the A491; the owner had left it parked whilst they walked to a nearby filling station for fuel. Did you see anything? Tel. 101 Ref: 0785S 061018

Cold Calls

It has been recommended that residents obtain a call screening service from their telephone provider. One resident at the meeting highlighted that the service she uses is free and she no longer receives unwanted calls.

5. Treasurer's Report

Since our October meeting there have been only two transactions on the account.

We have paid for printing the flyers (£13) and printing the service booklets (£118) for the Remembrance Day commemoration.

Our account balance now stands at £613.10.

6. Traffic Update

County Councillor Shirley Webb has organised a Divisional public meeting, Monday 12th November 10.30am- 11.30am at Catshill Methodist Church. The Division includes Fairfield, Bournheath, Dodford with Grafton & Catshill. Cllr Webb says that consolidated data from traffic surveys will be presented.

Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting to show a presence for Fairfield. It was felt that a Divisional meeting may not deliver meaningful outcomes.

After emailing several requests to Cllr. Webb, FVCA are disappointed that survey data from June has not yet been made public so that it can be scrutinized before the meeting. In an email received 14th August from Richard Clewer (Highways) he writes "there is still a reduction of 10%-15% following the introduction of the new lining and signage. New speed surveys have also taken place at the entry points into the 30 mph zone. At the northerly end the mean speed was 33 mph and the 85th percentile was 38mph; at the southerly end, the mean speed was were 33 mph and 85th percentile was 39 mph." If Mr. Clewer is citing data statistics then data results must be available, or is data quoted is inaccurate or relates to previous survey.

Highways have proposed changing the VAS (vehicle activated sign) on Stourbridge Road, Yew Tree Lane junction, to display a Roundabout. It was felt that the most vehicles that drive through the village already know that there is a mini-island, the change of sign will have low impact and measures are required to slow vehicles down before they enter the village, rather than when they are a third of the way through the village. Money would be better spent on a physical traffic calming measure.

In response to a request from FVCA, the Safer Road Partnership say that they are issuing an average of 10 notices per visit. They claim they do not have any additional information.

There is no update on when the Safer Road Partnership will start carrying out enforcement from land south of the mini-island.

There is no news from Highways regarding the review of the mini-island. New signs have been erected signposting lorries to Dodford off Stourbridge Road at the mini-island.

7. Remembrance Service & WW1 Commemorations

Fairfield at War – There is a display in the church remembering those men that died during World War 1 and are listed on the War Memorial, 1st - 12th November. On the 8th November, additional work from children at the First School will go on display. Key to the church can be obtained from Fairfield Café.

Remembrance Service - This year's Remembrance Sunday service will be at Fairfield Ward Memorial, please arrive for 10.50am. During the half-hour service, we will remember those who have died in conflict, and members of our community will lay wreaths. Following this act of remembrance, refreshments will be served in the Village Hall.

8. Litter Picks

Last litter pick of the year on Saturday 10th November, meet outside Village Hall 10.30am.

A volunteer is needed to help coordinate Litter Picks in 2019. The person will work with the Chair to ensure that litter picking equipment is taken to & from the Hall, directing volunteers as to where to pick and ensure that any new volunteers are aware of rules and risks. If you can help, please contact Conrad.

9. SmartWater

Rollout currently 50%, which is fantastic. Still need to get some more properties to sign up.

Volunteers needed to help with Door Knocking: Saturday 24th November, meet Village Hall 10am

If you have a Smart Phone or tablet, download the SmartWater "We Don't Buy Crime" app.

SmartWater summary laminates to be produced to aid volunteers.

10. Local Plan Review

Residents are encouraged to respond to the District Council's consultation.

11. Planning Application – Chawich Quarry

The Planning Application was discussed at an informal meeting of the Fairfield Village Community Association (FVCA) Officers on Wednesday 31st October 2018.

There was a range of views expressed by the committee members but each member recognized that they did not have sufficient information or technical knowledge to be able to opine on the basis of factual knowledge and could do little more than express a personal view.

A major concern was that FVCA could damage its own long term interests if it is perceived by the regulatory authorities to oppose almost everything without have soundly based justification. There is a danger that whenever a major problem arises our voices would be disregarded because we have been seen to 'have cried wolf too often'.

To sum up, the Officers deferred taking a decision concerning the planning application until it had a much better knowledge of the facts about the application.

Residents understood the rationale of the Officers. The planning notice was circulated, and residents are encouraged to respond with their own comments.

Should further information become known, this will be shared.

12. Dog Mess Signs

Trevor updated residents, signs are with Council's contractor to install.

13. Outdoor Christmas Market

Monday 17th December 6pm – 8pm

Swan Inn

£5.00 pitch/table. Proceeds to FVCA.

Need some craft stalls.

FVCA to run Raffle, Name the Teddy and any other fun stall.

W.I. invited to put on cake stall.

Volunteers needed to help run stalls and to sing some carols.

14. #FairfieldFlicks

FVCA considering holding some cinema evenings/afternoons during 2019. Any suggestions of genre of film to be shown?

15. School Engagement

Several activities have been arranged, residents are encouraged to support.

PTFA Craft Fair

Wednesday 14th November 3pm – 6pm

Children in Need Coffee Morning

Friday 16th November 9am – 9.45am

16. Coffee & Natter Wednesdays

Residents & School Parents are invited to the Village Hall for FREE refreshments & biscuits on Wednesday 17th, 24th, 31st January 2019 2.45pm – 3.15pm.

17. Festive Fairfield & Future Events

Several Festive Fairfield events have been organized, including Caroling Around the Christmas Tree, which will be opened by the School Choir. Confirmed dates of Festive Fairfield events and other future activities was circulated and can also be found on the FVCA website. Events will be promoted in the Winter FVCA newsletter.

18. Any Other Business

None

Date of next meeting: Saturday 3rd November 10am Village Hall (refreshments from 9.30am)