



Fairfield Village Community Association

Saturday 1st September 2018, 10am

Venue: Fairfield Village Hall

Present: Robert Garvin, Conrad Palmer, Patricia Steward, Janice Boswell MBE, Ian Tisdale, Linda Garvin, Mary Gibbs, Brenda Thomas, Alan Mabbett & Pam Jones

1. Apologies

Trevor Jones, Rita Spense, Sheila Bretherton, Carol Edwards, Pat Turbutt, Josie Albutt, Carole Morris, Keith Morris, Carol Brogan, Averil Perks, John Coldicott, Pauline Boulton & Brenda Clarke

2. Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Chair's Report/Update on Issues

- **Bin Collection Update** - Bromsgrove District Council have issued the following advice:
 - "If you were due a recycling collection on Thursday or Friday this week and your green bin was not collected, we will now collect your recycling on your next scheduled recycling collection in two weeks (week commencing September 10). We will collect any excess recycling left in cardboard boxes alongside the bin."
- **New Website** – Due to increase in hosting costs, a new website has been created, fvca.org.uk There are also some new email addresses:
 - General Enquiries admin@fvca.org.uk
 - Chairman chair@fvca.org.uk
 - Treasurer treasurer@fvca.org.uk
- **Afternoon Tea** – Successful event, enjoyed by all, revenue £576.00 shared with Libby Mae's Little Anges (£278.00). No expenses were taken. Thanks to everyone involved with organising, promoting, attending etc. Consider running this event twice a year.
- **Village Planters** – Trailing pansies have been purchased, 10 for each planter.
- **Mini-island** – Dropped kerbs have been installed.

- **Recreation Ground Car Park** – Meeting will take place second half of September.
- **Wildmoor Quarry** – No further update.
- **Dog Fouling Sign** – Not yet put up on the Rec.
- **Newsletter** – Autumn's newsletter is out and can be downloaded from the FVCA website.
- **New Vicar** - On Sunday 2nd September, Rev. Canon Sue Oliver will take on the mantle of Curate-in-Charge (Vicar) at St. Mark's Fairfield. Sue will be licenced at a ceremony at St. James, Blakedown. We wish Sue all the best, if you see Sue at church or out & about do say hello.
- **Do you know any older people who are usually on their own on Christmas Day?** - We have received an invitation from a local family for two older people to enjoy a Christmas Day meal, provided by an amazing cook (local venue). If you know of any older persons that may like to some company on Christmas Day please email admin@fvca.org.uk Transport will be provided.
- **318 Bus Service** - Timetable and Fares from 2nd September now online <http://fvca.org.uk/documents/318-bus-service/> Time tables have been posted at Bus Stops through the village.
- **Donation Box** – FVCA can now received donations via the website fvca.org.uk
- **Online Shopping can help FVCA** - We've registered with easyfundraising, a great site where you can raise money for FVCA with your everyday online shopping. We want raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fairfieldvillageca/>
- **November's FVCA Meeting** – Will be held at the Swan Inn (Saturday 1st November 10am) as the floor at the Village Hall is being re-varnished.
- **Parish Council** – Meeting on Monday 3rd September 7.30pm at Belbroughton.
- **Neighbourhood Planning** – Article in newsletter. District Council will be consulting, visiting Fairfield (date subject to formal confirmation) Monday 1st October 3.30pm – 7.00pm, First School.

4. Neighbourhood Watch

- **Suspicious Activity Reported**

28th August, a resident was followed to her door by a man in a white van who hid by her door when she entered the house. Luckily she saw the man and he made a quick escape, driving towards Pepperwood.

The incident has been reported to the police. If you experience similar please report to the police, if safe to do so get the vehicle registration number.

- **Theft of motor vehicle**

Between 15th and the 23rd August 2018 a 53 plate black Land Rover Freelander was stolen from a layby off Sandy Lane, Wildmoor.

Did you see anything suspicious? Telephone the police 101.

- **Neighbourhood Watch Signs**

FVCA needs to locate all the old signs in Fairfield & Stoneybridge, as each sign will be given a “refresh”. Also, new larger signs will be put up at village entrance, these signs will be dated and will need to be replaced each year – hopefully communicating to criminals that the FVCA Neighbourhood Watch Group is active.

- **Calling on residents to register with Neighbourhood Watch**

It would be very helpful for National Neighbourhood Watch if residents formally joined the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, this will aid Neighbourhood Watch with funding applications when it has to demonstrate how many supporters they have.

Currently our scheme has 1 member, yet we know that we have many active supporters.

Please formally join our scheme, it costs NOTHING

<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/scheme/27494/fairfield/>

- **Shed Burglaries**

Over the past week there has been a sharp rise in the number of shed burglaries in the Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington area.

Offenders are gaining access to the rear gardens of houses that run along Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington via neighbouring fields. Once in the garden offenders will target any shed or outhouse stealing any items of value from within.

This method of entry is similar to that when sheds & outbuildings were targeted in the Fairfield area late last year and early this year.

Please review your shed and outbuilding security.

If you see any suspicious activity report to the police and share intelligence with FVCA, who are your verified Neighbourhood Watch Group.
<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/Home-security>

- **SmartWater** – Full details of the SmartWater Rollout in the FVCA newsletter. Volunteers will be needed assist with the mop up, 26th & 27th September, meet at Village Hall 6.30pm for briefing . Hopefully most residents will collect their kits. Please promote.

5. Treasurer

“Since our last meeting, we have had a very successful Afternoon Tea which raised a total of £556. The proceeds have been split equally between FVCA and Libby Mae’s Little Angels. We have had grateful thanks from Charlotte Sharratt for our donation of £278. I repeat our thanks to Julie and everyone in the team which organized the event.

Our bank balance is currently £519.53 but it will be severely depleted when we pay for printing the quarterly Newsletter which is about to be distributed. After settling that bill I expect that we will have just under £200 in our coffers.”

6. Traffic Update

Copy of email received from Richard Clewer (Worcestershire Highways) appears in the FVCA newsletter. A discussion took place regarding the email contents and what to do next:

- Should 30mph sign be moved closer to the village (within sight of building), there should be a) 3-2-1 signage & road marking to indicate the approaching change of speed limit, b) the proposed 40mph buffer zone extends to Stoneybridge Island.
- The average speed limits Mr. Clewer quotes are questionable, as slower vehicles are masking vehicles exceeding the speed limit.
- It is doubted whether a “gated entrance” would achieve the desired effect, the illusion of the narrowing of the road.
- Mr. Clewer mentions vehicle accident data, it is known that there have been other vehicle accidents along Stourbridge Road in addition to the two that Mr. Clewer has quoted.

- Works costs provided were appreciated, however, no figures were quoted for the suggested works at the village entrance. The cost of the speed table does appear to be high and the quote for a Zebra Crossing is not required as such a measure would provide very limited traffic calming in relation to the whole of Stourbridge Road.
- The Chair will respond to Mr. Clewer's email.
- Residents are encouraged to write to Cllr. Alan Amos detailing their observations and experiences.
- A working group will consider how we can raise the profile of the issue that we face with some PR, suggestions including a convoy of road users driving through the village and highlighting the issue that horse riders face.

7. WW1 Commemorations

- Cross on top of war memorial has yet to be cleaned. Mary to liaise with Simon Baldwin to borrow washer and to liaise with Robert Garvin & Pat Steward regarding scaffolding.
- Carol Edwards has written to Tom Davis, Reporter at the Bromsgrove Advertiser, regarding the article earlier the year "First visit to grandfather's grave", Andrew Tranter researching Charles Tranter, who is listed on Fairfield War Memorial. Tom Davies will forward an invite to Andrew Tranter asking him to contact us. FVCA would like to trace other descendants of people listed on the War Memorial and invite them to share family memories and to attend the Remembrance service.
- Request to draw on the funds that the Parish Council have set aside for each ward to help with events to commemorate the end of World War 1 was sent to the Parish Clerk who informed the Chair that the request had to be brought before the Full Council by a Ward Councillor. Ward Councillors have been emailed, only communication response has been from Parish Councillor Mabbett, who is on holiday when September's full council sits, he has asked his fellow Councillors if they could bring the item to the table. The agenda for September's Full Council meeting has been set and the request to draw funds is not on the agenda. It is hoped that a Councillor will raise our request under Councillors Items and that the item is not deferred to a future meeting.

- Funding being sought £453.00
 - Order of Service x 100 copies £118.00
 - Service invite flyers x 500 £ 31.00
 - Refreshments & biscuits £ 10.00
 - Silhouettes for Benches x 7 £294.00.

8. Engagement, Social Activities & Fund Raising

- a. **Fairfield Walkers** – 7th Sept. meet Rec. 10am
- b. **Community Litter Pick** – 8th Sept. meet outside Village Hall 10.30am
- c. **Mental Health Conversation** – 8th Sept. Village Hall 10.30am – 12.30pm
- d. **Fairfield Dining Group** – 17th Sept. Lord Mortons – contact Pat if you are attending
- e. **Live Music** – 28th Sept. Swan Inn 9pm
- f. **Fairfield Walkers (7 miles)** – 29th Sept. meet Rec. 10am
- g. **Bonfire Radicals** – 30th Sept. Village Hall, tickets on sale from Post Office. Raffle prizes needed.
- h. **Fairfield Walkers** – 5th Oct. meet Rec. 10am

9. Any other business

None

Date of next meeting: Monday 1st October 7.00pm for 7.30pm start, Fairfield Villa Club House