



# Fairfield Village Community Association

**Saturday 6th July 2019, 10.00am**

**Venue: Fairfield Village Hall**

**Present:** Alan Mabbett, Janice Boswell MBE, Ian Tisdale, Patricia Steward, Josie Albutt, Averil Perks, Conrad Palmer, Linda Garvin, Brenda Thomas, Trevor Jones, Sheila Bretherton & Gemma Parsons

## **1. Apologies**

Carol Brogan, Carol Edwards, Rita Spense, Pat Turbutt, Robert Garvin, Mary Gibbs, Sue Wilkes, Carole Morris, Pam Jones & P. Cllr. Bob Morgan

## **2. Approval of minutes**

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

## **3. Chair's Monthly Report/Update on Issues**

### **Suspicious Garden Contractor**

Report received of a Black van driving around the village on 27<sup>th</sup> June, driver claiming he needs to get rid of some gardening stuff. Chap claims he has been working at Catshill school. White man in his 50s with crooked front teeth. Shirt with logo on left side something like world gardening. Seemed very genuine at first until he offered the resident a garden bench!!

Catshill school has been contacted and it is not one of their contractors.

There have been further reports of a person visiting other properties in the Fairfield & Bournheath area.

12<sup>th</sup> June "Man aged 45-55, 5ft 10 to 6ft, short dark hair and stocky build called at my door and offered garden furniture for sale at a discount price following it being left over from a new build project in Fairfield! He offered no ID. He was wearing a green sweater with company name Worldwide Gardens and a logo on the left hand side of the sweater. After asking him some prices I then asked him where was the new build in Fairfield exactly and he could not be specific and was not sure as he said he was not local as he was from Suffolk. He was in a large black Peugeot van registration MA19 \*\*\*. He did not call on any of my neighbours. The incident has been reported to 101."

The police are aware and have reported to Regulatory Services.

### Suspicious Activity

Please report suspicious activity to the Police, tel. 101, and share information with FVCA so that other residents are aware.

### Theft of Motorbike - Bell Inn

On Sunday 30th June at approximately 12.50pm a car pulled up and occupants snapped steering lock and drove off with motor bike in car. The motor bike was a Yamaha VSZ R125, white with yellow wheels partial registration BTxxGWZ

Incident number 0592s 300619

If you have any information on any of the above Incidents please contact the Police on 101, quoting the incidents concerned – any information given will remain anonymous.

### Vehicle Collision

TWO people were taken to hospital after a crash in Bell Heath 21st June.

The collision involved two vehicles and happened on Woodfield Lane around 8pm.

The patients were taken by West Midlands Ambulance Service and firefighters from Bromsgrove, along with West Mercia Police made the scene safe.

### Theft – Quantry Lane

On Wednesday 19th June, reported at 5.17pm, victim had his wallet stolen, containing credit cards and driving licence from the front seat of his vehicle whilst at the recycling centre.

Incident number 0558s 190619

### House Break-in

House broken into Dodford Rd Bournheath Wednesday 19th June between 9am and 2pm, jewellery taken. Any info call West Mercia on 101 ref 393190619

### Speed Enforcement Update

Several residents have reported that they have not seen the Mobile Enforcement Officer in the village since late February.

The Community Association has contacted the Safer Road Partnership and the Operations Manager has informed us that they are experiencing some motorbike related staffing problem. The Operations Manager has said that 'It will be resolved over the next couple of months in the interim we have asked the local officers to pay some attention to the area.'

So that we know how often the Local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team are carrying out speed enforcement in the village, could residents email the Association when they see speed enforcement taking place – date, time, place of enforcement (and if possible) how long the officers were carrying out enforcement? Email [admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

### Recycling Reminder

Bromsgrove District Council are reminding residents not to put their recycling in bin bags or carrier bags. Bags and their contents are rejected at the Recycling Processing Centre.

Place items for recycling in the green bin and take any old carrier bags to your local supermarket, where it can be recycled.

Non-black plant pots can be placed in Recycling Bin. Black plant pots can be taken to Webbs Garden Centre.

### Afternoon Tea at Fairfield Café

Now available at the Fairfield Café, "afternoon teas £24 for two people with this one time only special offer of two people for £14!"

One pot of tea and a three tier stand with a range of sandwiches, cakes and scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam! This really is a must have for the summer holidays!

Pre booking required, served from 12-4 Monday to Friday and 11-12 on Saturdays.

### Quiz Night at the Swan

This Sunday (23rd June ) starting around 8:30pm.

### Floral Fairfield

2<sup>nd</sup> July, the judge toured the roads from Bournheath Road to Yew Tree Lane to view front gardens and tubs/baskets.

Judging will continue 11th July.

### Floral Art Competition

Our Floral Art Competition takes place Saturday 20th July.

Get your creative caps on, it's a bit of fun. Full details in the FVCA newsletter.

### Hot Weather Advice

West Midlands Ambulance Service asks that you make sure you follow some basic steps to keep yourself safe, cool and hydrated.

- \*Drink water regularly
- \*Avoid too much alcohol
- \*Eat little and often
- \*Wear light, loose-fitting clothes
- \*Wear a hat

### Talk, Tea and Tech

First session last month attracted 6 people to the Tech, finding help available very useful. A further 6 residents, not wanting the Tech, enjoyed the Talk & Tea.

The next Talk, Tea & Tech is on Wednesday 10th July 2pm - 4pm

In the Main Hall will be the Talk and Tea, enjoy a cuppa and biscuits/cakes and have a good chat with other members of our community.

In the Committee Room will be the Tech. Pop in and someone will help you use basic functions of your phone, tablet or laptop; e.g. sending text or email, searching the internet, online shopping and more.

Please tell your friends and neighbours about Talk, Tea and Tech, 2nd Wednesday of each month.

### Help for Talk, Tea & Tech

Can you show someone how to send an email, text, look up information on the internet or to use an app to get the weather forecast?

We need you. You do not have to be an IT expert, just a willingness to help people to do simple tasks on their phone, tablet or laptop.

Interested but uncertain if it is for you? Pop along to Talk, Tea and Tech on Wednesday 10th July, 2pm - 4pm.

### Fairfield Diners

July 15<sup>th</sup>, The Navigation Inn, Hanbury Road, 12.30pm

Social gathering of residents and friends of Fairfield & Stoneybridge; get to know your neighbours over a lunchtime meal.

Please contact Pat Steward (01527 832360) if you wish to attend by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July or require further information.

### Social Wednesdays at Bournheath Community Centre (except August)

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month 10.30am – 12noon

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Use the book bank, play a game of table tennis or enjoy a chat & a slice of homemade cakes.

### Welcome Club

No more Welcome Club at the Village Hall. Members will continue to enjoy monthly trips out.

### Planters

The planters at both ends of the village are looking good, the south planter is very colourful and the pinks are starting to flower in the north planter.

### Fairfield Walkers

July's rambles:

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 10am

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 7pm

Meet Fairfield Recreation Ground. Wear suitable clothes and footwear. Dogs on lead are welcome.

Drive/Car Share to start of walk.

## Fairfield Village Hall 200 Club

Only £1.00, win cash prizes. Members are needed, due to current members moving out of the area or have died.

If you would like to join speak to Linda Garvin or Conrad Palmer.



If you feel like some exercise and a chance to walk and talk, the monthly Bournheath Walk is taking place on **Monday 8th July**. This will be a walk over easy terrain and will be 2-3 miles. **Meet at the Village Community Centre at 10.00**. Dogs on leads are welcome. Wear suitable shoes.

## Scam Warning

Reports from Norfolk Police (PC898) of a new scam involving a call purporting to be BT saying they will discount the phone bill by 35%. The caller knows details such as names address bills & phone usage BT have confirmed this is a SCAM. The number used was 02225604568.

## Scam Alert

Action Fraud have received an increase in reports and intelligence where elderly victims are being targeted by individuals purporting to be police officers or traffic wardens. The victims are being approached whilst parked in a car park and are told by the suspect that they have parked illegally or broken a speed limit and a photo has been taken of their car for 'evidence'.

Victims are advised that they will face a substantial penalty fine unless they pay a smaller upfront fee immediately. Victims, who opt for paying the smaller penalty, will be directed to a parking meter and asked to enter their card and PIN. These parking meters have been tampered with by the suspect in order to retain the card.

Once the victim inserts their card and are asked for their PIN, the victims are shoulder surfed for their PIN by the suspect. Once victims input their PIN, the card is retained by the machine and victims are told by the suspect to seek help from the company who operates the parking meter or their bank.

What you need to do

- If you are suspicious about the authenticity of the fine, do not pay it until you have verified it with your local council.
- Always shield your PIN from view when using an ATM machine, and never share your PIN with anyone.

- If your bank card is retained by an ATM machine, contact your bank immediately to inform them.

### Passenger Transport Survey

The Worcestershire Passenger Transport Strategy has been developed to support the County Council's Local Transport Plan 4.

The Strategy sets out how the Council will work with partners to deliver passenger transport for all residents.

Complete the Council's consultation survey now:

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/passengertransportstrategy>

### Volunteers needed to help manage Fairfield Village Hall

As a trustee you will, with other trustees, shape how the Hall is managed and work towards a sustainable future.

Trustees' Meeting are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except August) 7.30pm Village Hall (Barton Room).

### 'Another Man's Shoes'

A gripping first-hand account of a Norwegian scientists' escape from German custody, during the Second World war, after his arrest for spying.

Village Hall on the Wednesday 10th July 7.30pm. Entrance £3.00. Arranged by Fairfield W.I.

### Village Website & Facebook Page

Visit the website and Facebook page for the latest information, scams and wider community news.

### First School Expansion

C. Cllr. Webb has informed the Parish Clerk that the Education Dept. at County Hall will be submitting their planning application to the County Council later this year. Bromsgrove District Council will be expected to be consulted.

## 4. Treasurer's Report

We have renewed our insurance policy for public liability and personal accident. The premium was the same as last year, ie £168.25.

As reported verbally at our June meeting, we received £150 sponsorship from Kev's Coaches for our Race Evening and we formally thank Kevin for his support of the Association.

The only other transaction since our last meeting has been the receipt of £9.40 as donations at the Tech, Tea & Talk / Coffee & Natter session.

The Association's bank balance currently stands at £687.35.

## **5. Village Picnic**

Despite the rain before the Village Picnic, there was a lovely turnout on Sunday, with friends catching up and new friends being made. The children did well in the races and it was nice to see the adults joining in with Tug-of-War, Sack and Egg & Spoon races.

Thanks to everyone that came, to Ellie & Steve for the Ice Cream bike and Charlie & Fairfield Villa for the bar & Club House.

It was agreed that another Village Picnic is organized next year (June).

## **6. SmartWater Mop-up**

Volunteers needed to help the police & SmartWater staff to rollout property marking kits to dwellings in Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge that have yet to claim their FREE SmartWater kit. Please donate an hour on Tuesday 9th July and/or Thursday 11th July, meet Village Hall 7pm.

The more properties that sign up to Smartwater the greater the deterrent for any would be criminals, we may be eligible for other crime prevention strategies if we can increase our take up rate.

## **7. Halloween**

Item differed to August's meeting.

## **8. Recreation Ground Car Park Extension**

It would appear that advice previously given to the Parish Council was incorrect and the Parish Council does not need planning permission to expand the car park.

Expanding the car park will help take parked vehicles off Stourbridge Rd, relieving congestion.

Prior to the meeting, two residents had expressed to the Chair that they were against any expansion.

Other residents, not present, had indicated that they are in favour of an expansion by extending the car park in the direction of the Millenium Garden, stopping at the Utility Pole adjacent to the gate to the garden of 122 Stourbridge Rd.

The meeting agreed to the following proposals, that will be put to the Parish Council:

- The car park is extended in the direction of the Millennium Garden, stopping at the Utility Pole adjacent to the gate to the garden of 122 Stourbridge Rd.
- A lattice surface is adopted, to aid drainage.
- The creation of a wildflower area around the Community Orchard and behind the Millennium Garden, including a wet area taking water from areas that are prone to flooding.

## **9. Litter Pick – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Meet Fairfield Village Hall 10.30am. Please inform Brenda Thomas of any areas that need attention. Stourbridge Rd & Recreation Ground will be targeted.

## **10. Any Other Business**

Sheila raised an issue whereby bins are being emptied and are not being returned to properties. Trevor agreed to look at Sheila's bin and the bin belonging to Elsie Bowditch to make sure that the bin is marked with the property number that the bin belongs to.

For older residents, the District Council does offer an Assisted Bin Collection service, where bins are returned to the property and not left kerbside.

A reminder to residents to mark their bins with their property number to be included in the next newsletter, plus an article promoting the Assisted Bin Collection service.

<https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/my-place/bins-and-recycling/assisted-bin-collections.aspx>

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 5th August 7.30pm Fairfield Villa Club House (bar open from 7pm)