



Minutes - Friends of Ashby Bath Grounds General Meeting 14/09/2014

PRESENT.

Members: David Simkins (Chairman).
Clare Birch (Secretary), David Bigby (Treasurer), A. Ingram, P. Robinson
and E. Robinson, C. Smith and Yvonne Smith.
Also present;
Janie Brigginsshaw, Phil Jones, Anne Armstrong, Frank Bedford, Doug
Cooper, Nancy Blessington, Maggie Bennett, Alison Salter, Carol
Walton, Martin Walton and other members of FOABG (names not
taken)

APOLOGIES.

Jim Curtois
Shirley White
Mike Ball

MINUTES.

1. Welcome by Chairman

Thank you from the Chair to FOABG members for the support given to raising the profile of FOABG and all the achievements the Community group have made over the last 12 months including; adoption of Bath Grounds flowerbed, progress made with the 2014 Footpath project and the withdrawal of the applications by Oaklands Hotels to build houses on the Bath Grounds.

The future poses more opportunities and challenges for the FOABG. The group are working hard behind the scenes to help the Town Council to address issues with the Bath Grounds and to help to secure long-term ownership, improvements and maintenance.

It was explained that the general meeting had been called to make a few changes to the FOABG constitution. These changes will allow the FOABG to apply for local funding.

2. Treasurers Report

£370.41 in the Bank

Includes £102.66 raised from; the Leicester Mercury scheme 'Cash for the Community' 62 membership subscriptions and monies raised from this year's pub quizzes.

3. **Appointment of Auditor**

An auditor needs to be appointed. Dave Bigby It was proposed that Sam Hampton (Chair of Town Team and a chartered accountant. Seconded by Chris Smith and carried.

4. **Alterations to the Constitution (two thirds majority of members present required)**

The Changes proposed to the current constitution allow for the application of funding for the Footpath Project

Changes to the constitution proposed by Dave Bigby, seconded by Yvonne Smith – carried, none against

Proposals as follows;

Dave can you copy and paste amendments to constitution here

AOB

A discussion followed covering the following issues;

- Flower bed - this was discussed further. It was outlined how the group wanted to make some sort of visible impact and this was achieved this year by the adoption of the Bath Grounds flower bed.
- Discussions with other parties including the cricket club and the bowls club about the issues they, and what we had in common. The importance of working together to make sure we have a voice was discussed. That we are stronger together.
- The FOABG would like to put together a 'vision' to find out everyone's likes and dislikes and find a way forward and a future for the Bath Grounds.
- The Footpath Project was discussed. The Completed Project design was outlined by Dave Bigby, including the consultation process and the proposed costs and approval requirements still required by the Town Council and Oakland's Hotels. A brief outline of the funding sources were also explained

A couple of questions were asked;

Would there be additional planting and seating put in place?

This was discussed and although there are not any plans this year to apply or fund additional seating and planting – it was agreed that these were ideas that needed to be incorporated into the long term vision for the Bath Grounds

What was the status of the remaining building applications by Oakland Hotels Ltd?

If was explained that these applications were still active and most likely to be presented at the district council planning meeting at Coalville on 7th October 2014. The objections from the FOABG were still in place and would be heard at that meeting. It was explained that it would be useful if the FOABG had a good representation at the application meeting and that as many people as possible were encouraged to come along to support the objection.