

Friends of Hadlow Road Station Meeting

Monday 4th January 2016

7.30pm in Willaston Memorial Hall Committee Room

Minutes Open Meeting

1. Welcome to new members

CH welcomed newcomers to the meeting.

2. In attendance

Chris Hampshire, Barry Vowles, Gill Knock, John Morgan, Dorothy Kirk, Sue Unsworth, Linda and David Featherstone, Ged Weeden, Derek and Christine Nicholls, Ben and Jenny Jackson, Joan Butcher, Hilary Booth, Harold Stockdale, Viv and Time Ley.

3. Apologies

Carol Collins, Colin Jerrett, Debbie Weeden, Ken Stubbs, Myles Hogg.

4. Minutes of last meeting (2nd Nov)

Agreed as a true record. Proposed Joan Butcher Seconded Hilary Booth.

5. Matters arising

AP1 JF to send thanks to the WI for their support for the events and especially the hamper items.

AP2 BV to investigate the license regulations about broadcasting music at an event.

6. Grounds Progress (GK)

Tidy up days will continue and GK will contact FHRS later this week. There has been a small issue with possible vandalism of one of the baskets. The timer watering system has been taken out and stored.

AP3 GK to meet with Nick Lightfoot (Ness Gardens) on Monday 11th Jan to formalise their involvement with FHRS.

7. Financial Update (HB)

There had been a small profit from Santa's Grotto event with a resultant increase in funds on the balance sheet. Please see attached financial document. It was agreed unanimously by the meeting that the financial year should end on 31st January.

AP4 HB to produce accounts for the year ending 31st January

AP5 JB to produce an Asset List.

8. Publicity/ Communications Update (GW/SU)

The notice board had been fitted in the waiting room. In addition to publicity around the Village, the Santa's Grotto event had received publicity in the Parish news, Love Wirral, and Neston news. On the day local newspapers and radio were in attendance and there were good articles in local papers.

9. Santa's Grotto Review (JB)

The Committee thanked Joan Butcher and team for producing an excellent event.

Joan Butcher gave a comprehensive report. 106 children attended with parents and all saw Santa with positive feedback from parents. The refreshments and sale of hamper tickets were especially successful. FHRS wished to thank all members of the community and committee who had contributed to these hampers and to the running of the event. Improvements in parking, times to visit Santa, raffle timing and entertainment for children will be considered for future events. No accidents or incidents occurred or were reported at the event.

10. Future for east side of the south (down) platform (CH)

The Community Payback Team had completed some clearance of undergrowth. There is still some tidying up to be completed. It was agreed by the majority that the initial aim at this time will be to grass over the platform area and allow the area at the back of the platform to be a natural area. **AP6.** Contact to be made with the farmer whose house looks onto this area to explain our concept and to get them onside.

11. Future of Station Master's House (CH)

Since the last meeting the Rangers and other CWaC employees have moved out of the Station Masters House. The future of the station is not known at this time. CWaC is considering the future of the old offices and downstairs (this does not include the ticket office, waiting room and cloakroom) at the Officers Asset Group in January. It was proposed that CH writes to CWaC for clarification of information about the possible restraints placed on Hadlow Road Station when the station was passed over to CWaC by British Rail. HB proposed motion which was seconded by BV. Motion was passed with 3 members against.

AP7 CH to write to CWaC.

12. Future negotiating team with CWAC (CH)

On the assumption that CWaC agree to FHRS taking some form of responsibility for the upkeep of the station masters house it was agreed that CH, BV, MH, and GW will act as the negotiating team for FHRS.

AP8 Any other FHRS who wishes to be part of the negotiating committee should contact CH.

13. Green Flag Community Award (PT)

This item will be left until the future of HRS is certain.

AP9 BV to provide more details on what Green Flag membership means.

14. AOB

a FHRS are still looking for members to cost an item/s on the development plan. A copy of the plan is attached to the email. If any member can obtain some generic prices for any of these items please let CH know.

b FHRS now has sufficient funds to attain charitable status (£5k). It was proposed by BV seconded by GW that CH progress enquiries with the charity commission on this. Agreed with 1 abstention.

AP10 CH to progress charitable status enquiries.

The next Open Meeting will be 7th March 2016.

These draft minutes are subject to ratification by the FHRS at the next Open Meeting in March 2016.