

# **Friends of Penketh Library (FOPL)**

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

## **Meeting 7**

**10.30 am in the Study Area**

## **Minutes**

### **Apologies**

David, Geraldine, Judith, Karen, Lorraine, Lynn, Sylvia and Wynn.

### **Matters arising from Minutes of last Meeting**

No outstanding issues.

### **Review of last Events – National Poetry Events, National Libraries Week Events, FOPL Mini's (After School/Story and Craft Time/Lego and Duplo), Reading Group and Burtonwood Association**

We were all very happy with the response to our recent Events. Twelve poets came to the Poetry Workshop which Geraldine organised and Sarah was very pleased with the children's poetry activities, a mixed age group enjoyed the various poetry methods. The Library Poetry Competition was won by Eirinn aged 8 - "The World as I See It", thanks to Mary and Geraldine for judging it, all the entries were published on our facebook page. Our Event for National Libraries Week was "Meet Your Community and borrow a book", over 350 people called in and we were very grateful for all the local groups that joined us to make the event so successful. Thanks again to the Chess Club, Gardening Society, N.A.W.C, Oaks, Olive Tree, Painting Group, Phoenix Choir, Police, Sankey Canal Restoration Society, Shannon Bradshaw, WI and Fr Malcolm from St Joseph's for supporting our event.

Jane L went through the various activities she had organised and explained about alternating her "After School" (averaging around 10-20) and Story and Craft Sessions (averaging around 8-9). Majority of "After School" participants are boys who especially enjoy the Space activities. Half term Lego activities proved popular and Jane mentioned that the Library Chess Event was well attended. Her interactive sessions e.g. the Hungry Caterpillar are also very popular but more volunteers are always needed to provide 'archways' and 'backgrounds'.

The Reading Group continues to grow, the talk by Sarah Ward, a thriller writer was especially interesting and Lynne was lucky to win a copy of one of her novels.

Burtonwood Association Talk was a sell out and we could have easily sold double the amount of places (going to have another session in 2018). Mary explained that collecting money was more involved than expected, usually our events are free, and the good news is that we had a surplus of £27. We are going to use the money to buy tea, coffee and mince pies and any left to be used by Jane L to buy craft materials.

So far we have not opened a FOPL bank account, just relied on the generosity of our Members to provide materials etc., but in future with more ambitious projects we may have to apply for funding.

### **Library News**

Jane F mentioned attending a recent Stockton Heath Working Group meeting which gave an insight into their progress on finding Partners and news of their Friends Group. Jane F could not go into detail about the Libraries Working Group Report going to the Executive Board of WBC on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December (18.30 if you want to attend) as it is not public yet. The Working Group has now disbanded and if WBC accepts the recommendations, a new Partnership Board will be formed next January. She was pleased to be a Member of the Working Group and felt that it had made progress towards the positive future of Libraries in Warrington. She will bring the Report to the next FOPL Meeting. We discussed the opening of the new Great Sankey Hub and if it will impact on Penketh Library, also the rumours about the Master Plan for the area.

### **Future Events and Sessions – Christmas and beyond!**

We planned our Christmas Event on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December - “Festive Fun with FOPL”. Jane F had already contacted the “Flower Rooms” to ask if they would give demonstrations of table decorations and Christmas Door Wreaths - yes. She had also spoken to the Phoenix Choir to come and sing carols, awaiting confirmation. Jane L and Sarah agreed to organise a FOPL Mini’s Christmas Craft Session - decided on angels and snowmen, also Jane L had materials available for card making. Mary thought it would be good to relay the carol singing outside the Library - need to check on legalities etc. Mary had contacted Lesley Rodham about a card making session and she has agreed to donate self-colouring cards. Andrea had suggested a food bank, Jane F was going to contact Warrington Food Bank to see if they would set up a collection point in the Library. Jane F was hoping for another practical session for Adults, possibly napkin folding, Mary to contact the WI to see if they can offer any help. We would like to offer refreshments and mince pies but this was dependant on how many FOPL’s were available, as at least 2 people would be required. Need to look into setting up a table with notes explaining book art, with hopefully someone demonstrating, old books to be supplied by the Library.

Suggestions for future events - Mary to contact Cheshire Wildlife Trust again, another Burtonwood Association talk and Andrea mentioned a George Formby evening, Jane F to contact the Society. Phillip suggested a Family History Session.

It was decided that the next Event would be Valentine’s Day in February, provisionally Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

### **AOB**

None.

### **Dates for next Meeting**

10.30 am on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018.