

Friends of Penketh Library (FOPL)

20th January 2018

Meeting 8

10.30 am in the Study Area

Minutes

Apologies

Judith (Johnston), Sholto and Wynn.

Matters arising from Minutes of last Meeting

Jane F to contact the George Formby Society and Mary to follow up Cheshire Wildlife Trust enquiry.

Review of last Events – Festive Fun with FOPL, Warrington Food Bank, FOPL Mini's (After School/Story and Craft Time/Lego and Duplo), FOPL Reading Group

Festive Fun went well considering the awful weather conditions, the children's activities attracted over twenty-five participants, the Phoenix Choir were in good voice and the Flower Rooms gave out useful advice and produced amazing door wreaths and table arrangements, tasty mince pies provided by George from our local Co-op. Warrington Food Bank were very pleased with the donations, over eight trolley's full, hoped in future they could extend their Christmas collections to all the Libraries. Jane L told us that FOPL Mini's continues to be popular with an average of six to twenty children at both sessions. Sylvia is happy with the Reading Group participation with at least nine regular members and the Christmas meal at the Oaks was very enjoyable. Jane L asked Sylvia to write something about the Reading Group to go on our facebook page.

Library News – Partnership Board

Jane F talked about Friends Groups being invited to join the Partnership Board which meets for the first time on Monday 29th January from 2:00-4:00 pm at

Westbrook Library. She mentioned the article in the Warrington Guardian and the salient points from the full Report. She asked if anyone wanted to join her and Phillip at the Meeting and if FOPL was happy for her name to be put forward to join the Board. Geraldine asked when Great Sankey Hub was opening and if this would have any impact of the future of Penketh Library? Mary reminded us at the original consultation meeting in Penketh that our Library was not under threat. No-one knew when the new Hub was scheduled to open. Geraldine wondered if there were minutes from the original consultation meeting regarding the future of Penketh Library? Discussed if getting copies would give us any relevant information.

Future Events and Sessions – Valentine’s Event (10th February), WW1 Project etc

Approved the draft poster and title for the Valentine’s Event – “Love is in the air” at Your Library, discussed activities and thanked Geraldine for agreeing to be our “Poet in Residence”. Burtonwood Association talk is organised for 20th March, Phillip has produced a poster. Event for Easter to be held on Saturday 24th March – details to be discussed at a future Meeting. Judith told us the date that Penketh and Sankey Gardening Society could hold their Event - 9th June. The Great Get Together is going to be held on the 23rd June which is the official nationwide weekend. No dates planned for April/May, yet.

Dates for next Meeting and AGM

Saturday 3rd March from 10:30 am.

AOB

Susan (Senior LiveWire Advisor) came to discuss our WW1 project and how the Library could get involved, 100 years in November since the end of World War 1. There are over forty names on the plaque on the Library wall and the Memorial in St Mary’s Cemetery, there is a deadline based on the possibility of obtaining funding. She had contacts that would be helpful once the research was finished for design, artwork, writing and editing. It was agreed that the Library would be the hub of all information received from our findings and any input from local Residents. We agreed on a set of seven boards and a booklet, examples of boards looked at and the exhibition to be circulated around local schools with a permanent display in Penketh Library. Need to find a title for the exhibition when all research completed. Going to contact local Royal British Legion to join us and share their existing information. Susan suggested that we make the official launch on 24th October, the 50th birthday of Penketh Library. Local schools will be contacted to suggest they craft poppies to put on the grass

in front of the plaque on the Library wall. It is hoped that all organisations in our Community will get involved in this project to produce a lasting legacy for Penketh, Great Sankey and Cuerdley.

We welcomed two guests to the Meeting, Chloe Deakin, a journalism student from Salford University and David Matthews, Co-op Member Pioneer. Jane F and Phillip had already met with David to discuss how we could develop the relationship between FOPL and the Co-op.

David explained his role as Co-op Member Pioneer for our local branch on Warrington Road (Manager, George) and Hawthorne Avenue (Manager, Donna). The intentions of the Co-op are to interact with the local Community, for mutual benefit, support and cooperation, (already working with Shannon Bradshaw and two local Scout groups). The Co-op is looking at organisations such as FOPL being eligible for funding in the future. Suggested we could link in with Co-op initiatives for slavery/trafficking, loneliness, Fair Trade etc., and spend time promoting FOPL in our local store. The Co-op could possibly help us with our future events such as “The Great Get Together” etc.

Geraldine requested weekend magazines be brought along to stimulate poetry ideas for “Love is in the air” at Your Library on 10th February.