

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

**3 March 2018**

### **First Annual General Meeting**

**10.30 am in the Study Area**

#### **Minutes**

##### **Welcome**

Jane Forshaw, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Meeting and explained the fire exits and procedures etc.

Present were Jane F, Phillip Forshaw (Secretary), Steve Adams (Treasurer), Members – Lynn Caine, David Gray, Sylvia Haggett, Judith Kemp, Jane Love, Andrea Maguire, Karen Mitchell, Mary Ross, Geraldine Snape and Guest, David Mathew, Co-op Member Pioneer.

##### **Apologies**

Sholto Douglas, Judith Johnston, Nicola Kerr, Wendy Molyneux (LiveWire Strategic Libraries Manager), Lorraine and Mike Parker, Sarah Parry, Debbie Mills and Wynn Whitehead.

##### **Presentation of Annual Report (Chair/Secretary)**

Jane F began by thanking all the Members for their help and support, special mention to Jane Love for her administration of the facebook page and for her continuing hard work running FOPL Mini's both Pre-school and Afterschool Craft and Story Sessions and Lego/Duplo Sessions. Sylvia for running FOPL Reading Group, Mary and Judith for organising specific Events, Geraldine for her Poetry Workshops and Talks, Liz Hedgecock for her Writing Workshops and Talks. All the Community Groups that have joined us for Events, Schools, local businesses – Flower Rooms, Co-op and Millenium Comics, Emergency Services e.g. White Watch Firefighters and the Police. So many organisations have participated on more than one occasion such as the WI and the Phoenix Community Choir. We appreciate all the support from the Community Groups and Penketh Residents that have helped to make our first year so successful. There are currently 48 members of FOPL. Jane F went through our Events and Sessions in chronological order. Under FOPL interaction with outside bodies Jane F quoted from Minutes and Reports from the Libraries Modernisation Working Group Meetings where FOPL was mentioned as an example of good practice and a successful Friends Group. She concluded her Report with plans for 2018 which included opening a bank account to aid in applying for outside funding, WW1 Project completion and launch, Penketh Library 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations, increasing Memberships through a survey of users and local Residents.

### **Presentation of Accounts (Treasurer)**

Steve reported very little activity as FOPL has relied on the generosity of local businesses and Members to provide materials and refreshments etc. Revenue leftover from our Burtonwood Association talk was used to buy mince pies and craft materials for FOPL Mini's.

### **Election of Officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer)**

Jane F, Phillip and Steve were re-elected with a unanimous show of hands.

### **Motions to be put to the AGM (none received by 24 February)**

None put forward.

### **Any other relevant business AOB**

Sylvia offered her services for grant applications. David Mathews mentioned that groups such as FOPL were now eligible to apply for Co-op funding from 5 March-18 April and later in October/November (three Groups allowed locally). Need to have specific plans for any funds received. Sylvia thanked all the Officers for their hard work and commitment.

End of Formal Annual General Meeting.

## **FOPL Ordinary Meeting 9**

### **Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting**

Jane F had contacted the George Formby Society and they were going to ask a local Member to give a talk, possible date 19 May close to George's birthday on 26 May, she suggested asking at the Burtonwood Association Talk if this would be a popular subject. Geraldine reminded us that there were ukulele groups in the Warrington area so possibly contact them and Bill Hallworth who gave a talk to Warrington History Society on "The Life of George Formby". Mary said that Cheshire Wildlife Trust could arrange a Children's Workshop, a display and give a talk – we decided on a Saturday morning talk aimed at all ages plus a Children's Workshop.

### **Review of last Event – "Love is in the Air in Your Library"**

Even though the weather was terrible we had a good turnout of Parents and Children who made cards and were helped by our Poet, Geraldine to compose verses. Decorating biscuits and making heart shaped boxes proved very popular.

### **Library News - feedback from Friends Networking Event Woolston Hub on 27 February**

Phillip, Jane F and Susan Morris (Lead LiveWire Advisor) attended the Meeting, he reported back that two other Friends Groups came along – Culcheth and Stockton Heath plus two

interested parties in forming a Padgate Group. We were introduced to LiveWire's Operations Managers and Community Librarians and their roles explained. Steve Cullen from Warrington Third Sector Hub highlighted the need to select representatives for the Partnership Board and acknowledged the work done so far by Gary Borrows and Jane F on the Libraries Modernisation Working Group. It was suggested that Friends Groups' Representatives should come from a geographical spread and that as there were only four established Groups they could each put forward a candidate. In future, a more rigorous selection process would be necessary which Steve said could be organised by Warrington Third Sector Hub. Regular Networking Meetings are going to be held quarterly. Jane L suggested holding future Meetings in the mornings so as not to clash with school runs, evening activities etc.

### **Future Events and Sessions – Burtonwood Association Talk on 20 March, Easter Event on 24 March etc.**

Jane F said that the Burtonwood Talk was sold out. "Eggstravaganza" Easter Event was discussed, plans made and a poster to be produced. Jane L will contact Liz Hedgecock whom Geraldine recommended as an expert Easter Egg Hunt organiser. Suggestions included a bunny trail culminating in a "burrow" a book and receive a chocolate egg/bunny.

### **Update on WW1 Project 'In Remembrance of the Fallen' from Susan Morris (Lead LiveWire Advisor)**

Susan's email was read out reporting that the booklet and posters had gone to the printers. She thanked all the volunteers who had given their time and come together with the whole Community, families of the Servicemen etc., to make this possible.

### **AOB**

Jane F mentioned an email from LiveWire regarding "A Poem to Remember" which was an invitation to a free poetry workshop. Geraldine suggested including a Poetry Workshop as part of our WW1 Project launch week together with readings from War Poets. Jane L asked if Geraldine would consider a Children's poetry session also as part of our WW1 commemorations. Jane F had contacted Warrington Voluntary Action for advice on a FOPL bank account, going to arrange a meeting with Steve, Phillip and her at Gateway, Sankey Street asap. Jane L suggested linking up with the Football World Cup in June, swapping football cards etc., as an after school activity. Sylvia thought we could get involved with Penketh Carnival on 14 July, a stall or joining in the parade as book characters, we would need funding to produce FOPL display boards and publicity materials. David Mathews informed us he had been speaking to the Parish Council, Warrington Voluntary Action and other local Community Groups regarding National Volunteers Week in early June, to organise a networking and celebratory event.

### **Date for next Meeting**

10.30 am on Saturday 21 April.