

Friends of Penketh Library (FOPL)

1st September 2018

Meeting 11

10.30 am in the Staff Room

Minutes

Forming a Working Group – Membership, date for Inaugural Meeting etc

Made our introductions, confirmed that some FOPL Members were also happy to be in the Working Group. Derek Baker mentioned our first date of 12 September was when the next Parish Council Meeting was to be held so changed the first Meeting to 19 September at 7pm in Penketh Library.

Apologies

David, Geraldine, Jane, Margaret, Steve and Sylvia.

Matters arising from Minutes of last Meeting

None

Review of last Events – “George Formby Talk”, “Growing Interest in Libraries”, The Great Get Together, FOPL Mini’s (After School/Story and Craft Time) and FOPL Reading Group

Over 16 people came to the “George Formby Talk”, our first session held in the Staff Room. Everyone enjoyed the talk by Neil Forshaw and it was thought that an evening event would attract a larger crowd. “Growing Interest in Libraries” Judith (Penketh and Great Sankey Gardening Society member) thought it was a slow start but was pleasantly surprised with donations of £98 (£62 last year), thank you card passed around from MacIntyre’s New Routes Community Gardens. The winner of the gardening quiz was Tony Higgins (Borough Councillor with responsibility for Leisure and Community) who was delighted to receive a hanging basket. “The Great Get Together and Teddy Bear’s Picnic” went well, Mary was asked if donations could be given, so produced the FOPL donation tin and raised £34.50 (plus £5.50 donation from her buggy sale) final total £40, making friendship bracelets was very popular.

Jane L sent a report regarding FOPL Mini’s, which continues to thrive, especially with a bead craft session during the summer holidays and the popularity of the joint FOPL/Library Lego sessions. The new Chatty Crafters is going to alternate on Thursdays 4-5 pm with After School “Story and Craft Sessions” which resumes on 6 September.

Reading Group have had various guest speakers and the occasional outing for coffee, Jane announced that one of our favourite guests Ian Smith (one half of the “Yorkshire Poets”) had sadly died recently.

Library News – Strategy Workshop, “Your Library ... Your Say” etc

Jane and Phillip went to the Friends Networking Meetings on 21 May and 14 August at Woolston Hub, it was a chance to meet other Groups and exchange ideas, guest speakers informed us about GDPR and funding opportunities. All FOPL's are welcome to join in the Networking Sessions. Jane, Phillip and Judith attended the Volunteer Celebration on 9 June and collected certificates, Geraldine and Sylvia were also there singing in the Phoenix Choir. We helped on the LiveWire/Library stall at Penketh Carnival. Jane went to the Partnership Board Meeting on 24 July, she brought along a copy of the Minutes. Thank you to Geraldine, Jane L and Sylvia for agreeing to join Jane at the Strategy Workshop on Thursday 6 September. Jane encouraged all FOPL's to go along to the “Your Library...Your Say” engagement sessions to voice their opinions about what books they want to see in the Library, she read out the times and dates.

Future Events and Sessions – Poetry Event on 29th September, Children's Chatty Crafters, ongoing WW1 Events, 50th Birthday Celebrations, National Libraries Week etc

It was decided to continue with the Poetry Event to celebrate National Poetry Day on 4 October – Sarah told us about ideas she had for the theme of “Change” plus the WW1 Poetry Competition promotion (this included a model of a bunker, changes through the seasons and opposites). Phillip is to produce a poster which Jane will circulate to the local poetry groups. Jane L was pleased with the response she had to the request for helpers for Chatty Crafters, we welcomed Brenda who has offered her services, first session is on Thursday 13 September from 4-5pm.

Forthcoming events –

25 September Scam Awareness session.

29 September Poetry Event.

4 October National Poetry Day.

8 – 13 October National Libraries Week, includes “Dementia Friends Session on 9th, Family History session 13th and maybe make it the annual “Borrow a book day”.

14 – 29 October is National Family Learning Festival, so far nothing planned.

16 October “700 years crossing the Mersey” talk by Bob Roach, an evening event.

22 October talk by Sarah Dunnakey on her career as a question writer for TV quizzes etc.

24 October Happy 50th Birthday Penketh Library – balloons, bunting, cake and refreshments.

24 October “Wenlock Mummy Murder Who Dunit”, an evening event.

Ceramic poppies session still to be arranged, also FOPL/Library involvement in Penketh Scarecrow Festival.

All posters for the above Events will be forwarded to FOPL's and displayed in the Library.

We are going to add “Happy 50th Birthday Penketh Library” to all our posters etc., as a build up to the big day on 24 October.

Dates for next Meeting

Saturday 6 October from 10.30am in the Staff Room.

AOB

Andrea asked if we were going to invite the Food Bank to set up in the Library for Christmas, all agreed we would like to, she also suggested contacting Adrian regarding small amounts of funding that he has obtained for flowers in Honiton Square. Sarah mentioned we could apply for grants from Warrington Charity Fund (?), to pay for craft materials etc., she is going to find out more information. Jane is to check with Susan regarding launching the WW1 Poetry Competition on either 29 September or 4 October and also the Library's plan for National Poetry Day, is a craft session required etc? Publicity was discussed, Sarah mentioned putting posters on the Community notice board in Great Sankey Children's Centre and Sainsbury's Community notice board in the Chapelford store.