

Friends of Penketh Library (FOPL)

7 September 2019

Meeting 16

10.30 am in the Staff Room

Minutes

Apologies

Andrea Maguire, David Grey, Judith Johnson, Sholto Douglas, Steve Adams and Karen passed on apologies from Ian Frampton.

We also welcomed new member Jacqui Brindle.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting (1 June 2019).

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Review of last Events

The Great Get Together

Jane Love said this was a good event. The numbers were down on previous Great Get Togethers, possibly due to hot weather and other events locally. The layout was different and didn't work well. The craft area was in the wrong place. However, the cakes and the choir were well received. Everyone who came along enjoyed it.

Summer Reading Challenge

Jane L reported that Both Andrea and Mary made generous contributions, so FOPL was able to offer Book Tokens as prizes for the Summer Reading Challenge to primary schools within walking distance of the library, these were Penketh Primary, Penketh South, St Joseph's, St. Vincent's and Great Sankey. The ones that took it up were Penketh Primary, Penketh South, St Joseph's and Great Sankey. Feedback so far indicates take was up on last year, so offering prizes has been successful in encouraging summer reading. Prize winners will be picked at random from those who have completed the scheme. As FOPL has funds it was suggested that we repeat giving prizes next year. Jane L also mentioned that LiveWire ran the Bookstart scheme to promote reading by younger children.

Reading Group

Sylvia reported the reading group is going well. They have had a long summer break. They have read through lots of books and have had lots of trips to exhibitions. They will be going

to the Peterloo exhibition in Manchester. Their members have also given talks on a range of topics. Membership is steady between 8 and 10, which is enough for discussion purposes and also for obtaining books. It was asked if the reading group review books or recommend them. Sylvia said this is something they could consider. She also said Helen is very helpful in obtaining books for the group.

Children's Chatty Crafters, Story and Craft sessions

Jane L said numbers are variable, partly due to the weather, also the sessions are free and not pre-booked so it's hard to know how many to expect. Generally, the sessions are well supported. Sometimes Chatty Crafters have a bit less in numbers than the Craft Sessions which in the summer had up to 25 children attending. Jane gave a rundown of the activities and said more could be offered if we had more helpers. Someone with crochet skills would be useful to teach this technique. She said there are some things, for example friendship bracelets which children could make on their own, possibly with laminated instructions and kits of materials. She also mentioned that ASDA have been very helpful with supplying materials.

Jane said the FOPL posts on Facebook, when shared out, could reach three or four thousand views but this could reach ten thousand for some posts. The Lego cards post reached fifteen thousand. Any post reaching ten thousand somehow seems to find it's way onto Warrington Guardian's Facebook page.

Penketh Parish Council Volunteer Celebration

Sylvia reported that she was in The (Phoenix) Choir at the celebration. She brought a certificate for FOPL from the event into the library where it should be on display. The numbers at the event were slightly down on last year, but it was a good event.

Financial report

FOPL have assets of £578.57, £430.00 of this is in the bank, £148.57 in petty cash. Mary said she was aware of a lady who had given something up for lent and the money she saved (£30.00) she put in the tin. It was asked if this was the main source of income. This was answered by saying this is an important source of our funds.

Funding applications

Mary said she had applied to the Co-op to be considered for their community fund.

The Co-op had extended the application date which enabled her to make the application.

The application has to be for a specific project. While FOPL could be considered a project in itself, it was suggested obtaining a projector and screen could be a very useful project, for example for visiting speakers to use. This would make it easier to have a greater number of speakers. Mary described the application process and said the online application was not difficult. We will not hear anything from them unless we are successful or if they need some more information. Sylvia asked if the reading group could apply to the Co-op if this first application was not successful. This was considered a good idea. Mary was thanked for applying on behalf of FOPL.

Library News

Mary said the Library Partnership Board meeting is being held next Monday in Sankey Hub but unfortunately, she can't go to this, though possibly Susan could go. Geoff Fellows said that he might be able to go. Mary mentioned the previous meeting was at Central Library and also mentioned the change in their opening hours. It was noted that Penketh library would be getting some maintenance work done.

Future Events and Sessions

Penketh Scarecrow Fest, FOPL are holding an event on the 21st September to tie in with the Scarecrow fest, the poster for the event was discussed and help with creating person-shaped biscuits was asked for. These could be made with a gingerbread man cutter. Borrow-a-book to enter the lucky dip was mentioned. An appeal was made for items to go in the lucky dip, these could be bags of sweets or small toys for example. The Scarecrow Fest Trail Maps were mentioned, the money from selling these is being donated to the Forget-Me-Not Dementia Cafe. Andrea had suggested FOPL produce a Scarecrow to enter the competition but, despite a lively discussion, nobody volunteered to make one.

'One Small Step' a talk to be given by Bob Roach was mentioned and noted that Bob had previously given a very entertaining talk for FOPL.

It was suggested that we could arrange to have a talk by Janice Hayes. She does a talk titled 'Family Album'. Which demonstrates how to date old photographs, also people bring along photographs and she helps to date them.

Mary has been in touch with Philip Jeffs who said that he could do a talk about Penketh & West Warrington.

Libraries week

'Celebrating the Role of Libraries in the Digital World' on the 7th to 12th October There's also National Poetry Day on the 25th anniversary which is on the 3rd of October. Possibly these events could be combined. The annual borrow a book day falls on 12th October this year. it was decided to have the libraries week event on the 12th of October. it was decided to make book shaped rectangular cakes for the National Libraries Week event. A Poetry competition was suggested Mary said it could be poems about books or characters in books. Sylvia suggested poetry 'Clouds' as a way of generating poems. Jane L suggested decorating biscuits, colouring and Borrow-a-Book to enter the lucky dip.

AOB

Andrea mentioned that Sainsbury's are giving away Disney collectors card with promotion products. Jane L said it would be similar to the Lego cards last year the library had a card swap section. she has asked Sainsbury's Chapelford for their spare cards afterwards She also asked anyone shopping at Sainsbury's to bring in the spare cards. she said it will be popular.

It was asked if Jane did a LEGO session she said yes It would be great if we could put on a regular LEGO club but more LEGO was needed Especially the bases. It is particularly popular with boys and that is good because it gets them into the library. It was suggested that a LEGO 'amnesty' could be organised to encourage handing in of unused LEGO.

Andrea mentioned ALDI are starting to give away GB stickers when you spend £30 in store. Schools are being asked to collect for a chance to get money. It was suggested that we could do a swap day.

It was suggested that FOPL invite the foodbank to have a Foodbank collection point in the Library again in the weeks before Christmas.

Jane asked Mary about 'Susan's coffee morning' This refers to 'The Silver Foxes' at Burtonwood which is a men's group who meet regularly once a week. A similar group might be setup in Penketh which could be essentially self-running.

Date for next Meeting:

Saturday 2nd November