



Friends of the Down Cemetery

Minutes of the second meeting of the FOTDC

Date 24th February 2017

Attending Robert Wall, Dominic Mc Donald, Lynn Drewett, Robert Colbourne

The minutes of the previous meeting was agreed unanimously

Membership Report

RC told us that we have 34 members; we are chasing two more at the moment. 1 corporate member and still in talks with the Co-op Funeral about either corporate membership or sponsorship.

Treasures report

We were required to change our constitution; the amendment to change to only one signatory on our bank account was discussed and voted on. It was agreed unanimously.

DM told us that currently we have £41.00 which is from membership and tea sold at open evening. It was agreed that we should move forward with opening an account at Santander bank DM was to start the process and all the committee were happy to give the personal information that was required.

Chairman's report

RW reported that we have had two successful gardening dates and that we had 10 people turn up to each date, we also had a date planting Daffodils that were donated by Trowbridge Garden Center. The council has agreed that we can use the chapel, and that RC had asked if maybe we should have an open day for members and the public in the summer. RW said that he would continue to talk to the Council about possible dates.

We have had an article in the Wiltshire times and RW said that as soon as we have another story we will contact them again. RW was interviewed on Radio Wiltshire.

We have been approached by Wiltshire Council to do a wildlife survey, and we will pursue this and find out what is required. Thought it might be nice to get a night camera and photograph the badgers set. LD said that her husband had a camera that could do this and might try later in the spring.

Jonathan Hawkes is updating our website regularly and has set up a mail chimp account which will help keep all membership updated. The board thanks him for all his help

We have our area board grant for £310 being discussed by the council on the 9th March 2017 RW will go to the meeting to answer any questions, the money will be used to buy gardening equipment if we are successful.

RW has spoken to the ground works company and they have agreed that large building sack would be better than plastic bags and that soil should be used to fill graves that have sunk. Will look at this next time we have a gardening date.

RW will arrange a date in the summer for a weekend of grave photography and transcription and let all members know.

RW is currently writing up a news letter which should be ready mid March and will be sent to all members, and copies will be given to the corporate member, Trowbridge garden center, library and the tourist information center.

A.O.B

DM suggested that we should have a list of projects and approximate cost so that as funding becomes available we would be able to put application in as funding becomes available.

LD suggested that if the Friends of the town hall where to dissolve that we should apply for some of their funds.

RW said that the council where concerned about the wild flower meadow as the cost to them per year would be £700. LD suggested that we ask Avonfield Garden center if they could help with this project.

RC suggested that we submit an article to Buddy and west wilts magazine. He will look into who we send these too.

RW thanked everybody for coming and the meeting was closed