**Attendees:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Committee:** | **Other:** |
| Helen Newman (Treasurer) | Samantha Lodge |
| Isabella Paton (Secretary) |  |

**Apologies:** Simon Taylor, Jackie Fahey, Oliver Hockman.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Isabella welcomed everyone and made a short introduction to the AGM.

Last year’s AGM minutes were accepted and signed off. There were no matters arising.

**Committee Report for Last Year**

Isabella talked through the update regarding the various activities FOAF had been involved in during the year. Report attached.

**Financial Report**

Helen read through the financial report for the year. Report attached.

**Elections to the Committee**

The following were agreed:

* **Chair -** Simon Taylorwas happy to continue in his role of Chairman.
* **Treasurer -** Helen to undertake role of Treasurer.
* **Secretary -** Isabella to undertake role of Secretary.
* **Membership -** Jackie to undertake role of Secretary, although she has stated that she wishes to hand over this role to a replacement as soon as one can be found.

**Committee Members –** Samantha confirmed that she would like to join the Committee. Isabella and Helen welcomed her to the Committee.

The Committee are working hard to encourage new members to join the Committee.

**Top Priorities for the forthcoming year**

It was agreed that the top priorities for the year should carry on from 2017 which were:

* Encouraging new committee members to join
* Increasing membership & renewals of existing memberships
* Finishing the current project from the £8.4k grant received from Rushmoor Borough Council to:
	+ Wildlife trail, including bridges across the ditch
	+ Planted entrance area to the park
* fund raising for:
	+ a new fence around the under 5’s play park,
	+ a path around the top of the park,
	+ possibly fund raising for some new equipment for that age group (e.g. to replace the original swings that are about 25 years old)

The Committee expressed their thanks to members, Rushmoor Borough Council and also to Adrian Collett, Sharyn Wheale, Stephen Parker, Fleet Town Council and the Falkners Arms for their support during the year.

**Friends of Ancells Farm - Committee Report to the AGM – 2017/2018**

It has been a busy and interesting year for FOAF, with a very small group of volunteers making up our Committee.

In 2017 we were successful in obtaining an £8.5k grant from the Farnborough Airport Environmental fund. We have used £2k of this to plant more hedges and to plant a new entrance area on the Farm Drive side of the park. The rest of the grant will be spent on developing and installing a wildlife trail. 6 brass rubbing posts have already been delivered and 3 large information boards are in development. Two bridges will be installed in the park to link the playing fields and woods.

We have also been fund raising to replace the fence around the under 5’s park and install staggered barriers at the Farm Drive entrance. Despite some good success in fundraising, this is a costly project and will take some time longer to reach our target.

Photos of our events are shown on our website, notice board, Facebook & Twitter. These included:

* A **Gin & Vodka Tasting** evening
* An **Easter Egg Hunt**
* **Planting** days
* Obtaining, installing and training on our **Community Defibrillator**

Thank you to everyone who was involved in these, including the Falkners Arms for allowing us to use the pub as a venue, Fleet Town Council, Rushmoor Borough Council and Hart District Council and Cllr Adrian Collett for their funding and other support.

For the 6th year in a row we have entered the **It’s Your Neighbourhood campaign from the RHS.** We have maintained our Level 4 ‘Thriving’ level in IYN.

**Membership** is looking healthy and comparable to previous years. We are always striving to reach new members and work on this will continue. Membership at the end of **2016 was 61 members** (2017 = 55, 2015 = 81). Memberships renew from 1st April. We are reminding those who have not paid their £5 fee that these are now due.

**Committee Structure** – Current committee members are Simon Taylor (Chairman), Isabella Paton (Secretary), Helen Newman (Treasurer), Jackie Fahey (Membership), Samantha Lodge and Oliver Hockman.

We are looking for a new membership secretary and also new committee members to strengthen our committee and allow us to continue the work that we’re doing. We have a number of roles that need filling on the committee and we would welcome new members to ensure that these roles are shared out as much as possible. Vacant positions include fundraising and webmaster.

**Projects for 2018**

* Fund raising for new fencing round the under 5’s play area and for a path around the far side of the playing field.
* We have started to work in our woods to bring them into our park, increase the biodiversity and make them more accessible by clearing one of the pathways. We hope to continue work on this project.
* Organising this year’s events – to promote community on Ancells Farm and also to have some fun!

**What events do you want this year? What ideas do you have or help you can give us?**

**Friends of Ancells Farm Financial Report 15 months to 31st March 2018**

Last year we agreed to change the financial and membership year to end 31st March. This report covers the period 1st January 2017 to 31st March 2018.

Due to a limited number of committee members we have had a relatively quiet time on the fundraising front. We held two types of fundraising event during this period. The annual Easter Event generated a total profit of £423 in 2017. The Easter Event in 2018 was held on 30th March, and was banked in April 2018, so does not appear on this report. As in previous years the Easter Eggs were generously donated by the Falkners Arms and Tesco, with raffle prizes also generously donated by Café Lusso and Ancells Fish & Chips. The second event was a Gin and Vodka Tasting evening, held in the community centre. This was a great success; just under 50 people enjoyed sampling 12 different gins and vodkas, resulting in a profit of £543.

We were also fortunate to receive a grant of £750.00 from Hampshire County Council, kindly provided by Adrian Collett.

The Hart Lottery is a new funding stream for Friends of Ancells Farm. It started during the summer of 2017. It is a steady, monthly contribution. To date, member’s lottery ticket purchases have raised £347 for us. I would like to thank everyone who has signed up to Hart Lottery to support Friends of Ancells Farm for their continued commitment, and wish them the best of luck – I hope one of our supporters wins the jackpot £25,000 soon!

The balance in the bank account at 31st March2018 was **£2,331.49**.

There are no accruals for last year.

There is an amount of **£180.57** in the Paypal account relating to membership subscriptions payments.

Therefore the adjusted period end balance is **£2,512.06**