**Attendees:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Committee:** | **Other:** |
| Simon Taylor (Chairman) | Natasha Barker |
| Isabella Paton (Secretary) | George Woods |
| Helen Newman (Treasurer) | Stephen Parker |
| Jackie Fahey (Membership) | Paul Gardner |
|  | Magda Pascoe |

**Apologies:** None.

**Minutes & Matters Arising**

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

**Committee Report for Last Year**

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

**Financial Report & Constitutional Change**

Helen read through the financial report for the year. Report attached. A change to the Financial section of the Constitution was requested to support on-line banking. This proposal was agreed. Copy 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 -** Natasha to undertake role of Membership Secretary.
* Jackie to remain on the Committee and Magda & Paul to join all in a general capacity.

**Top Priorities for the forthcoming year**

It was agreed that the top priorities for the year should be:

* Encouraging new committee members to join
* Increasing membership & renewals of existing memberships
* Hold the table tennis table lauch event.
* Fund raising for:
	+ a new fence extension around the under 5’s play park,
	+ a path around the top of the park.
* Plant more trees.

The Committee expressed their thanks to members, Rushmoor Borough Council and also to Fleet Town Council, Tesco and the Falkners Arms for their support during the year.

Meeting close 21.00hrs

**Friends of Ancells Farm - Committee Report to the AGM – 2020/2021**

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

We were very lucky to have been donated a concrete table tennis table, which was installed in June 2021. We are very grateful to Rob Hall our local builder has installed the concrete base for this for free and also to our local residents who raised £291 to pay for the concrete.

We have used all of our £8496 of the Farnborough Airport Environmental fund grant first obtained in 2017, with the final plants were planted in the far side entrance area in October 2020. During this project we planted more hedges and new entrance areas. The rest of the grant was spent on developing and installing a wildlife trail and two bridges. The installation of the bridges was funded by a grant of £2,900 from Fleet Town Council.

We have also been fund raising to extend the path along the far end of the playing field, replace the fence around the under 5’s park and install staggered barriers at the Farm Drive entrance. Despite some good success in fundraising, these are a costly projects and will take some time longer to reach our target.

In May 2020 we received an award of £1,166.00 from Tesco Bags of Help and we are grateful to both our local Tesco and everyone who voted for us.

In February 2021 we received an award of £1,000 from Hampshire County Council and we are very grateful to Cllr Adrian Collett for making this possible.

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

Our particular thanks this year go to Rob Hall for organising the Table Tennis Table installation. **Thank you!**

**Membership** in 2021 was slightly decreased on 2020, Membership at March 2021 was only 29 members, (2020 40, 2019 27 and 2018 61 members), however we’re pleased to report that in 2021 we are focusing on publicity and membership with the aim of increasing those numbers further. Memberships renew from 1st April. We are reminding those who have not paid their £5 fee that these are now due. We are always striving to reach new members and work on this will continue. Any help on addressing this problem and publicising FOAF, would be very much appreciated.

**Committee Structure** – Current committee members are Simon Taylor (Chairman), Isabella Paton (Secretary), Helen Newman (Treasurer), Jackie Fahey (Membership), Sara Lacy and Oliver Hockman. We are looking for a new secretary, 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 2021**

* Holding the Table Tennis Table launch event;
* Fund raising for a path around the far side of the playing field and new fencing round the under 5’s play area;
* Publicity and increasing membership; and
* Organising events – to promote community on Ancells Farm and also to have some fun!

**Friends of Ancells Farm Financial Report year to 31st March 2021**

This report covers the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.

Although we have been unable to run our annual Easter event due to Covid restrictions, we have been awarded some funds from Tesco Bags of Help (**£1,166.00)** and also from Cllr Adrian Collett at Hampshire County Council **(£1,000.00)**.

We were also very happy to receive donations of **£291.00** to fund the concrete base for our new table tennis table. We are very grateful to our donors. It is now ready for our Table Tennis competition and fun day event, which has been postponed due to a continuation of covid restrictions.

The Hart Lottery continues to be a valuable funding stream for Friends of Ancells Farm. It started during the summer of 2017 and is a steady, monthly contribution. This year the Hart Lottery has generated **£212.00**, which is down £155.00 from last year. 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. Please consider supporting Friends of Ancells Farm through the Hart Lottery – you never know who may win the jackpot!

Total collections for membership this year is **£186.28**, paid by cash, cheque, Paypal and bank transfer. We would like to encourage people to use the standing order form. Further information is available on our website http://www.ancellsfarm.org.uk/ . Check out the membership page.

We have spent all of our Farnborough Airport Environmental fund grant **(£8,496)** and Fleet Town Council grants **(£2,900)**, finishing the final planting and installation of the wildlife trail and bridges during this year.

The balance in the bank account at 31st March 2021 was **£5,899.38**.

There is an amount of **£186.75** in the Paypal account relating to 2020/21 membership subscriptions payments.

Therefore, the adjusted period end balance is **£6,086.13.**

**Constitution Change 2021**

**Background**

We would like to set up internet banking recognising that:

* it is important and cost effective to enable quick and efficient payment of bills by online transfer;
* our Committee is made up of volunteers who are not always able to go to the bank;
* there is a need to be able to provide quick access to banking information outside normal office hours
* monthly paper bank statements do not provide up to date information for committee meetings.

Currently the Constitution states that two signatories are required for all payments, which is not compatible with internet banking. Therefore we propose changing to one signatory and all payments will be reviewed at our regular monthly Committee meetings.

**Current wording**

**FINANCE & EXPENSES**

All monies raised by or on behalf of the Organisation shall be applied to further the objects of the Organisation and for no other purpose.

All cheques or Authorisation shall be jointly signed by the Treasurer and one other Committee member. There shall be at least two signatories for the Bank account at any time.

The financial year shall run from 1st April to 31st March.

The accounts shall be independently audited annually prior to the A.G.M.

Members shall be entitled to be reimbursed, promptly, all such reasonable travelling and other expenses incurred by them within the rules agreed with the Committee. Members shall not be entitled to any additional remuneration for the performance of their duties.

**Proposed new wording**

All monies raised by or on behalf of the Organisation shall be applied to further the objects of the Organisation and for no other purpose.

All payments shall be agreed by the Treasurer and one other Committee member and reported at the next available committee meeting. There shall be at least two signatories for the Bank account at any time.

The financial year shall run from 1st April to 31st March.

The accounts shall be independently audited annually prior to the A.G.M.

Members shall be entitled to be reimbursed, promptly, all such reasonable travelling and other expenses incurred by them within the rules agreed with the Committee. Members shall not be entitled to any additional remuneration for the performance of their duties.