



Friends of Honley Library

Minutes of meeting on Monday 7th March 2016

Present: Joe Hodgson (Chair); Caroline Page; Margaret Waterworth; Nita Steel; Jenny Bagworth; Linda Sharpe; Jenny Lockwood; Stephen Dufton; Maureen Allen; Parish Cllr Stephen Baggott; Pat Thompson (minutes)

Apologies: Cllr. Charles Greaves; Anne Broadbent;

1. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising:

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

Update re. Gutters - Following a request from Caroline to follow up on this issue, Mark wrote to PRP on 9th February but has not yet received a reply. At present they are dealing with emergency repairs and it was agreed that, after bringing the state of the gutters to the attention of PRP, we should not push further at the present time.

Class Visits - Louise feels that these are going well with Caroline and Jenny L. providing extra volunteer cover on a Tuesday afternoon. At present there is an extra paid staff member for the other class visits but, when this ends, more volunteer support will be needed.

FOHL Leaflet/Bookmark – Joe, Linda S. and Maureen handed out leaflets and bookmarks in Honley on Sat a.m. 5th March. Maureen said that there was a mixed response from people but generally, interest was shown on what is happening with the library. Joe felt that it was useful to talk to people and said that he had positive comments about the bookmark.

Caroline has put leaflets in Trinity Church, 'Chain Reaxion' and will take some to 'Hinchliffe's'; Margaret has taken some to Hope Bank; Jenny L has taken some to St Mary's Church and Joe left some in the chemist.

Nita suggested that we should distribute a newsletter regarding the change in library opening hours. There is concern that people will not bother to visit the library if they are unsure of when it will be open and therefore the number of book loans will fall. After some discussion, Joe said that he would speak to Mark about whether he would be able to produce some information that we could insert into our leaflet. We also discussed putting posters around the village and putting the changed times in the Honley Flyer and Holme Valley Review.

2. Events

Anne sent some notes, which Linda read out.

The next Poetry Readaround, "Spring Into Poetry 2016", is on Tuesday 12th April from 7.15 to 9 p.m. (Meet at 6.15pm to set up). It will be an informal evening, with no musical or other guests, where we will be going back to the idea of having a circle, or semi-circle of readers to help create a friendly atmosphere (not that it wasn't before!)

Nita will be doing the list for readers. The Photo protocol will be put into place to inform people that if they do not wish to be on a photo, to move to the side when they are taken.

There is no ticket or entry fee, but the donation box will be on the refreshments table and guests will be encouraged to give a small donation for the cakes and refreshments.

We are having a raffle, as before. Raffle prizes are being secured as we speak. One already is a voucher from Honley Butchers. Other possibilities are chocolates from the Coop, flowers from Lidl and flower bulbs from Aldi (?)

Posters have been left at the library for collection to deliver. Would you please let Anne know where you have left any. So far, Joe is taking to Taylors, Mr Froggat, Holmfirth Civic Hall and Holmfirth Coop and Holmfirth Methodist Church. Anne has left one at the butcher's and will take one to the Coop in Honley, Insurance Brokers in Honley and Phoenix Centre, Dunford Road in Holmfirth. Small handouts will be on the counter to promote the event.

There will be a Coffee Morning at the library, in aid of the Mayor's Charity 'Diabetes UK' on Saturday 23rd April. There will be a Raffle, Nita has got the bran tub and books will also be on sale.. Please let Linda or Jenny B. know if you are able to make a cake for the event. Jenny B said that she would make a cake suitable for people with diabetes. The Mayor will be invited to attend.

Jenny Lockwood said that she was happy to do another book sale in October and asked whether we could combine this with a coffee morning. She now has access to dry storage facilities for books at the Church. This was agreed.

Joe mentioned recent problems with dates in the Honley Flyer. Although Linda had sent the correct dates, wrong dates were published for the Evening Book Group and also for the upcoming Coffee Morning in April.

The Evening Book Group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month.

3. Treasurers report

Joe reported that we now have a total of £593.05. This consists of money in YBS and in petty cash.

4. Website Group

Steve explained that we have now changed the way that agendas and minutes are put on the website. They are now in PDF format, which is easier to upload, takes less space and looks neater.

Steve has produced a report regarding the activity on the website but needs to do some more work on this to make the information easier to understand. The report will

identify, for example, how many people have logged onto the website, how many are repeat users and how many are new to the site.

We have now used all our free support sessions from Jon, who set up the website. Ongoing expenses will be; payment for the Domain name (We initially paid £17.45 for 5 years) and also for the Web Space (£60 per annum). We need to check who will send details of payments due and how to pay. Linda will email Jon to ask about this.

The group has also discussed the ways in which we communicate and how this might be improved. As well as the Website, Facebook, Twitter and leaflets, we will now produce information about upcoming events that will go out in the main body of the email with the minutes of the monthly meeting. Linda will also put this information on Facebook and Twitter.

Jenny L. suggested putting book reviews or 'Book of the Month' on the website and Jenny B. suggested having a page for children with, e.g activities, quiz. We would need to pay Jon to set this up on the website for us.

Stephen Baggott said that Honley Business Association is setting up a Community Website and suggested that we might link in with it.

5. Library Volunteers

At the volunteers meeting on 24th February, there was a proposal that 2 volunteers could open the library without a member of staff on Saturdays, which would enable the paid staff to open the library for 15 hours during the week. The unanimous decision was that volunteers would not work without a member of staff as they felt that they needed professional support and expertise. Mark was supportive of this decision.

Carrie is producing a questionnaire for volunteers to provide a skills survey, which will be discussed at the next volunteer meeting. There will also be discussion about the rota, possibly looking at an on line version.

Links between volunteers and FOHL will be discussed at the next FOHL meeting.

6. AOB

There was no further items brought forward for discussion and the meeting was closed at 7.30pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 4th April at 6.00pm