

**Friends of Miss Whalley's Field (FMWF)  
Notes of 1<sup>st</sup> AGM  
Wed 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015 @ 8pm  
Gregson Hall**

**1 - Attendees:** Andy Halladay (AH) (Chair), Paul Wiggins (PW), Neil Tomlinson (NT), plus members of the local community and interested parties  
**Apologies:** Stuart Hunt (SH), Andrew King, A. Hornby, M. Forrester

**2 - Introduction**

AH welcomed attendees & introduced the original 'committee' members. Followed by a summary of the history & progress of the FMWF:-

Nov '14 – Instigation of the idea for forming a community group by AH, PW, SH & NT, with the aim of working towards adding further protection to 'Miss Whalley's Field'.

Dec '14 – Completion of Village/Town Green Application to Lancashire County Council to further protect the existing deed on the field.

Jan '15 – First public meeting to establish if there was sufficient public interest in forming a 'Friends of Miss Whalley's Field' group. This was voted for unanimously by all.

Feb '15 – Public meeting - Progress of Village /Town Application; Ideas & wording of FMWF constitution; Request for volunteers for Constitution Working Group.

March '15 – Working Group produced draft aim & objectives the Constitution. Decision to also complete a Local Green Spaces Application. Draft constitution sent to e mail list with suggestions for amendments before the next public meeting.

April – '15 – Village/Town Application. So far there have been no 'triggers' which would prevent the application from proceeding. (A Trigger Event could include the lodging of a valid planning application to develop the land.)

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b>3 - Adoption of the Constitution</b> The draft constitution was distributed to attendees. Comments asked for from the floor. No changes/objections were raised. A show of hands confirmed all attendees were in favour of adopting it.</p>	
<p><b>4 - Election of Committee Members</b> As stated in the constitution, it was agreed to have 3 Officers &amp; up to 5 committee members. The following members were voted in:- Treasurer – Neil Tomlinson; Secretary – Margaret Wiggins; Chair – Andrew Halladay; Committee Members – Mo Kelly; Stuart Hunt; Ben Green; Claire Duff; Paul Wiggins.</p>	

<p><b>5 - Local Green Spaces</b> Local Green Space designation provides special protection against development for green areas that are valued by communities &amp; recognised by the Council as such. Members of the public can nominate such areas, &amp; if chosen &amp; designated in the Local Plan, these would be protected from inappropriate development.</p>	<p>AH to submit application on behalf of FMWF</p>
<p><b>6 – Aldcliffe Triangle Friends Group</b> Dave Brooks (local Green Councillor) talked about the formation of the successful development &amp; funding bids of a small, previously problematic, area of land between the canal &amp; Aldcliffe Road/end of Regent St South.</p>	
<p><b>7 – Activities &amp; Events</b> Initially the FMWF, its intentions and aims need to be publicised throughout the community, so that they can be involved &amp; contribute to activities &amp; ideas. The Bonfire event on the field, is organised by a Bonfire Committee in conjunction with the Gregson. More volunteers are needed to help with the event especially with debris and litter collection afterwards.</p> <p>Need for a variety of activities to interest a range of the group &amp; members of the community. Ideas from the floor included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter picking</li> <li>• Head count of pedestrians through the field</li> <li>• Tree planting Day</li> <li>• Wildlife Event to identify plants &amp; wildlife</li> <li>• Clear overgrown areas</li> <li>• Survey of biodiversity</li> <li>• A Time Capsule Event</li> <li>• Reinstatement of seating (as there used to be)</li> <li>• Field maintenance to enable more games use</li> <li>• Suggestion that schools may be interested in joining in activities</li> </ul> <p>There is 5K in Miss Whalley’s Field Endowment Fund. We need to know how this is being allocated &amp; get clarification on the Council’s responsibilities.</p>	<p>PW &amp; NT to attend next Bonfire Committee meeting</p> <p>AH to contact D Redmore re advice on survey</p> <p>AH to liaise with Central High School</p>

<p><b>AOB</b>  No charges for membership of FMWF but contributions welcome. Would it be an advantage or disadvantage to 'attach' the group to the Gregson as the Aldcliffe Triangle Group have done with the Fairfield Association? It would facilitate insurance liability &amp; potentially provide FMWF pages on the Gregson website. Should there be a permanent noticeboard on the field &amp;/ other locations with event details &amp; group contact details. Would we need permission from the Council to do this?  Simon Gershon suggested the area around the viewpoint above Eskdale Gardens would also be suitable for Local Green Spaces Designation.</p>	<p>Agreed that FMWF will enquire re affiliation with Gregson</p> <p>Simon asked if anyone interested to contact him</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting:</b>  First Committee meeting to be Wed 3 June 2015.  Members on the E mail list will be sent 1<sup>st</sup> AGM notes.</p>	