

Minutes of FOAL AGM

Thursday 23rd February 2023 Held in Adlington library at 7.15pm

1. Present - Alison Evans (chair) , Andrea Bernard, Philip Pilling, Margaret Jackson, Gerry Fielding, Jeanette Lowe & Terry Diviney.

2. The chair's welcome. Members were welcome by Alison Evans FOAL Chair.

3. Apologies were received from Carl Fazackerley, Erica Fazackerley, Peter Walkden, Caroline Hesketh, Donald Hesketh, Audrey Yates, Margaret Burgess, David Carpenter, Kathy Maidment & Penny Panting

4. Minutes of 2022 AGM - These have previously been sent out to members. Their acceptance was proposed by Philip Pilling & seconded by Andrea Bernard. Voted on and approved as a true record.

5. FOAL Committee

5.1 Resignations - Whilst none have been received, Penny Panting has advised she is no longer able to continue as minute secretary but will remain on the committee, it was agreed the minutes should be noted to thank Penny for her efforts in this role.

5.2 Re-elections of existing members to committee.

All existing members to be re-elected – approved, proposed by Jeanette Lowe, seconded by Philip Pilling.

5.3 Election of new committee members – none have been received.

5.4 Election of officers to continue in their present role, Caroline Hesketh in her role as secretary will receive some additional support from Gerry Fielding . Proposed by Andrea Bernard, seconded by Margaret Jackson – approved

5.5 Vice Chair - it was requested that the minute should also be noted that Margaret Burgess be appointed as vice chair - proposed by Philip Pilling, seconded by Margaret Jackson – approved

7 Treasurer's report

7.1 The accounts were presented by Philip Pilling and were made available to people attending.

This has been the first year of full activity since the pandemic, finances are in a healthy position.

Philip was thanked for his report by the chair.

The accounts are attached to the end of the minutes

7.2 Acceptance of the accounts, proposed by Gerry Fielding, seconded by Terry Diviney. They were unanimously accepted.

7.3 Acceptance of Donald Hesketh as auditor for 2023, proposed by Philip Pilling, seconded by Gerry Fielding - unanimously accepted.

6 Report by Chair Alison Evans

Welcome to the Friends of Adlington Library AGM 2023.

Thank you to all our volunteers and members for their time, energy and valued contributions to our first full year of activities following the closures and restrictions of the pandemic.

Events and Activities:

Meetings – FoAL members met regularly throughout the year to plan social activities that support mental and physical health and wellbeing and organise fundraising.

Saturday Coffee Mornings – Our regular Saturday mornings with themed craft/activity focus continue to engage all ages. Many thanks to Audrey and our team of volunteers for continuing to organise and run this popular social event. Lego has now been added as a regular activity on the last Saturday of every month due to its popularity.

Learning and classes: See reports from individual groups: French group – Monday evenings; Family History – 1st Tuesday of the month; Sign Language - 4th Wednesday of the month; Reading groups – Friday every 4 to 6 weeks

Play and Stay – details are in a separate report. The group continues to be popular with young families. Many thanks to Andrea and the team.

Films For All – regular movies aimed to appeal to all interests and ages. A local community grant from LCC was used to fund some of our film showings over the winter as part of the warm spaces initiative.

Community Fitness TIF – detailed in separate report. Baby yoga, chair yoga and walking group promoting health and wellbeing.

Crafts – throughout the year craft activities have offered a creative way to commemorate, celebrate and express: Jubilee celebrations included making London Landmarks and Crown Jewels; summer crafts included Butterflies, Bug Shelters, Painted Rock and cone; Christmas crafts included button trees and cards.

Special Events:

VE Day Remembered, 7th May – a wonderful event with so much positive feedback received from attendees – singer, pasties, ukuleles and tombola to support Ukraine refugee appeal.

Fashion Show – successful fundraiser and social event in conjunction with St Catherine's Hospice – well attended, promoting sustainability and supporting a local charity.

Lancashire Day – Co-op funding paid for an enjoyable Saturday afternoon talk and reading by local actor Dean Fraser following a busy coffee morning.

Jubilee – FoAL's contributed to the community celebrations marking the Queen's Jubilee with craft activities and an indoor street party on Sunday 5th June which included tea, cakes and sandwiches and film of the Coronation on the big screen.

Murder Mystery, October – Lots of fun had solving another murder at the library – great social and fundraising event.

Fun Palace, October – FoAL supported the library in offering activities during the day, including dream catcher making, bracelet making, crazy Boccia and French quiz with food tasting.

St Catherine's talk, May – talk about the work of St Catherine's.

Chris Martin, December – local author ran a workshop on mystery plays and had an interactive session bringing characters to life – with hats and wigs, of course!

Steering Group:

Christmas tree bracket was used again this year and, thanks to support from Adlington Town Council, we had a lit up Christmas tree attached to the side of the library.

Cllr Alan Cullens attended the coffee morning on 14th May to discuss LCC's work with Friends groups and the needs of our library.

FoAL and Adlington in Bloom have worked hard to maintain and improve front garden of the library. Following permission from LCC, members painted the benches and railings to give a much-needed makeover.

The building has been cleaned.

Plans are in place to add new planters to the rear and side of the building and to repair or replace fences around the children's garden.

Defibrillator has been replaced and can be used at FoAL events.

What's next?

Over the next year plans include Coronation events, Fashion Show, regular films for all, and a continued programme of activities that reflect and respond to the community we serve.

Alison Evans

Chair of Friends of Adlington Library

8. Reports from FoAL Groups.

Stay and Play Report by Andrea Barnard

Our numbers vary – we may have two one week or eight another, but Mums tell us how much they appreciate having the stay and play session.

It gives them access to adult conversation and a chance to net work with other mums, their children socializing in a safe environment.

We watch as children learn new skills, and mum's grandparents and carers reassure each other about problems with teething, diet ,at what age milestones will be reached etc.

Towards the end of the session those who are able sit round the table and enjoy toast and bananas.

We move on to our finishing singsong, with requests for favourite songs. We finish with a personal bye bye to each of them.

Family History report by Gerry Fielding

The family history group meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 7pm to 9pm in the library. We have now been meeting since September 2019 and there is still an average of 10-12 people attending each month with some new members joining since last year.

In the sessions we tend to concentrate on working through 'break walls' that individuals have come across throughout the month, and try to suggest different sources they can try, which may help them resolve their mysteries. We have also been astounded to learn that all members of the group can trace at least one ancestor back to Adlington! It seems that all roads really do lead here!

A few members of the group have now taken DNA tests and we have been learning what information this can open up to us. It's amazing how many relatives you can find without ever knowing they existed.

The group is open to everyone and there is no need to attend every session as they are very informal. You don't need to have any experience as there's always someone who can help you get started and guide you along your family history journey. Everyone is welcome to come along and join us. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7pm.

Report for FoAL Sign Language Group.

The group started in June 2022 and we had 30 people at the first meeting.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

We started with Louise Donlan taking the classes but it was decided that we needed a deaf person who could teach British Sign Language. We now have Colette Forrest-Hogan teaching the class. Her husband Mark taught the November Class. Colette also does a Youtube video for the group so they can practice at home. The cost is £25 per class which is covered by the donation from the Jack Simmons Trust, so we don't have to charge members. We have also purchased some BSL books.

Although we don't have as many attending as we did in June, we do regularly have 15 people at the classes.

We plan to continue with the group for 2023.

Report for Films for All by Margaret Burgess

A variety of films for both adults and children were shown throughout the year.

There was a special screening of the film "A Queen is Crowned" to celebrate the late Queen's jubilee.

Audience numbers were very varied and it is not always easy to judge the best day or time to show films. It might be worth considering if we should produce a list of future films perhaps quarterly which we could circulate.

The main cost of showing films is the licence fee - A grant from Chorley BC of £500, donations, sale of refreshments and the occasional ticket sale has helped cover costs.

Thank you to everyone who helps with setting up the room and equipment, serving refreshments and tidying afterwards.

FoAL Reading Group - Wot the Dickens - report:

The group continues to meet on Friday nights, once every four to six weeks.

Currently, there are ten members. Numbers are steady with around five to eight members in attendance each session.

We have read a range of fiction over the last year, some based on factual events, some fantasy and magical realism and all offering a widening of members' existing reading choices.

The group's discussions are wide ranging and move from characters and events in the text to conversations on connected themes, ideas and topics. There is always a lot of laughter.

Anyone is welcome to join and members do not have to have read the book to come along to the meeting.

French class Report by Margaret Jackson

The French class has now been meeting for four years. It continues to thrive with 5 regular attendees meeting in the Library from 6.45 till 9pm on Monday evenings.

We always start with general conversation and progress to other activities, some using a textbook. We practice the four skills needed to learn a language - listening, speaking, reading and writing. We have also covered all the main tenses and practice them regularly.

A few months ago we had a new member join us who is self-taught and he has done remarkably well and fitted into the group. I have had an occasional request for beginners' lessons but feel it would not be appropriate to try to integrate complete beginners into the group.

Library Review for FoAL AGM 24/2/23

Firstly, thank you one and all for your support again over the last 12 months, it is very much appreciated.

As this is really just a precis of the last 12 months it will mainly be activities run and the attendance figures.

Starting with Together Fund activities (formally known as TIF):

Monday Morning Movement – Janine Noblett has delivered weekly sessions with attendances totalling 381 for the period 1/3/22-12/2/23. This has been paid for alternate months through the funding we received in 2022, Chorley Buddies have paid for the other months.

Baby Yoga – Carol Unsworth has delivered weekly sessions with an attendance total of 124 for the period 1/3/22 to 10/2/23. The numbers here are restricted due to the size of the room. There is also a greater changeover of attendees as the babies start to walk or parents/carers return to work.

Health Walk – We don't have accurate figures for this but seem to be averaging 8-10 walkers these days. The only outlay here is for the refreshments on the return to the Library.

The funding we received is now almost exhausted, as at 14/2/23 we have £138.20 remaining, which should cover the Baby Yoga to the middle of March. It is Chorley Buddies' turn to pay the seated exercise bill for February. A bid for further funds to take us from 1st March to the end of September is to be submitted, closing date 28/2/23 so there will be an interim period where we are waiting to find out if that has been successful and the funds being issued. We have discussed this before at previous Committee meetings as to whether FoAL would consider either covering this interim period or, if the bid is unsuccessful, paying some or all of the amount going forward. I will also approach Chorley Buddies with regards to the Exercise in Chairs, I know they are really pleased with how the numbers have risen here and may well be happy to take over the full payment of Monday. They already fund the Tuesday class in full. **This may be something to consider in the Committee Meeting following the AGM in connection with the Sports & Culture Grant mentioned at 4.2 on the agenda. I have emailed Chorley Buddies on 16th February, but on leave since so not aware of their response in time for the meeting.**

Digital Courses

We held 2 three week computer sessions with a company called UDevelop, who work in conjunction with Chorley Borough Council. Over these 2 courses we helped 10 people improve their online skills or with a technical issue they had. We are hoping to work with UDevelop further in the next business year, either with more of these courses or other services they offer. I have put our name in the hat for a session around food poverty/fuel poverty and debt management and they have also mentioned scam awareness sessions – something we could also invite Fern Jones (PCSO) along to to give us the Police advise in this are too.

Junior Sessions (crafts etc)

Easter – we had 52 children attend over 2 sessions

Jubilee – 80 children

Summer SCART Club a total of 196 attendances over the 5 sessions, 91 sign ups, 29 completions (31.9%)

Christmas - 42 children

Feb Half Term - 29 children Winter SCART sign ups 31, completions 11 (34.4%) as at 16/2/23

We have also had 1 class from each of our 4 Primary schools attend sessions with Dan Worsley, kindly paid for from FoAL funds. This is the feedback from Miss Dervish, Year 3 teacher at Anderton:

The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit to the library with storyteller, Dan Worlsey. They left extremely excited to read his stories. It was great to watch their faces light up and the smiles to appear whilst listening to him. He is

a fantastic story teller. The children were engaged throughout and we would love to invite him to school for the rest of the children to experience his expert story telling skills.

Looking at how all this ties in with our Business Plan:

SCART – Target was 75 sign ups and 30% completions.

Digital – Target was 24 Record of Achievement forms (where either staff, volunteers or digital partners have helped customers in at least 4 identifiable areas). Thanks to the UDevelop course we have completed 26 (108%)

Collaborative events – Our Target was 1 per quarter:

Q1 – London Landmarks with yourselves and the restart of Reading Friends with the help of LSCFT Community Engagement.

Q2 – Sign Language classes for both children and adults – Louise Donlan and exhibitions by both Bill Nolan and St Paul's Guides

Q3 – Fun Palace with various groups, businesses and individuals (75 adults & 53 children) Author visits (Jen Carney & Dan Worsley), Clog Dancing

Q4 – Further Dan Worsley visits, Fiona's flowers, Lego Club

We have also got targets around dementia friendly activities and the boccia falls into this. We promoted Playlist for Life during Dementia Action Week and at Fun Palace. Moving forward on this subject, we would like to offer Dementia Friends training, possibly a play (subject to cost and availability) and, as part of the new Together Fund bid, Raise the Roof with Genesis Day Care (a singing and dancing session for people with dementia and parkinsons)

I have also been to Marley Court this week and have signed up 9 new Home Library Service customers – our target was to increase our numbers by 2!

The Home Library is available to anyone who would like books but is no longer able to get to us. There are 2 options, a collection service where we pack a bag up and a relative/neighbour/carer collects for the borrower or a delivery service where the bag is dropped off and the old one collected by our volunteer Maureen.

Lancashire Adult Learning

We had a target of one course per quarter (or 4 per year). So far we have had 2 tutors at the Fun Palace and the Taste of Germany at Christmas course so 3 to date. We did have a dementia course booked in May but it was cancelled due to insufficient numbers. I do have a list of possible classes we could try for but don't think we would get anything this business year now.

STEM

We have been asked to get closer to STEM and things like the Lego Club and the crocuses would count towards this. STEM is Science Technology Engineering and Maths but we don't need to suddenly become Physics Professors or Coding Experts overnight!

We will be starting to work on the 2023/24 business plan soon and I will let you have a copy so that we can ensure that the work you do is supportive of our core areas and helps with the targets we aim to achieve.

9 Future events – Another full year of activities & events, which will be promoted on social media & posters.

10 AOB – none

11 Date of AGM 2024 – exact date to be confirmed but will be in February 2024

FRIENDS OF ADLINGTON LIBRARY .FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR year ending 31/12/2022

	£	p		£	p
INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
DONATIONS			Insurance	179	80
Public	310	83	EVENT EXPENSES		
			Films for All screenings	1062	82
EVENT FUNDRAISING			ITF Chair based movement	660	
Coffee Mornings	1812	62	Baby Yoga	540	
Murder Mystery	573		Sign language course	161	19
Fashion Show	609	90	Performers	80	
VE Day Remembered	261	11	Others	170	
Films for All	425	07			
Others	54	50	PURCHASES		
			Bluetooth Speaker TIF	120	
SALES	8	10	Boccia Set	588	01
			Sun blinds	1796	40
			Craft Equipment		
			Printer	61	10
			Stationary/Printing/Card	242	53
GRANTS			Refreshments &		
Jack Simmons trust	5000		Event Licences	1102	71
LCC shared reading	50		Donations	300	
TIF grant.	1470		Craft, Jubilee, Decorations	441	79
Chorley B Council	725		Benches and Fencing	201	29
Saving Account Interest 2021	221	34	Jigsaws, games, and		
Saving Account Interest 2022	228	52	Commemorative items	52	82
Saving Account Interest 2021	50	86	Others	131	81
Easyfundrasing	16	52			
TOTAL INCOME	11817	37	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7892	27
Closing Balance in TSB 31/12/21	15492	12	Closing Balance in TSB 31/12/22	18916	50
Savings Accounts - closing balance	15625	73	Closing Balance. United Trust Bank	16126	45
Petty Cash-closing balance	24		Petty cash/cash in hand balance	24	
TOTAL OPENING BALANCE	31141	85	TOTAL CLOSING BALANCE 2022	35066	95
Income over Expenditure	3925	10			
	35066	95		35066	95

Treasures...

Auditor...



