

## Farnley Forum

22 September 2014

Notes following the forum meeting which was held on the 22 September 2014, 5.00pm at the Farnley Tyas Bowling Club.

Introduction and the meeting chaired by Mr Paul Sykes of Farnley Estate.

### 1.0 Apologies

Farnley Tyas Women's Institute (WI) sent their apologies and a short report:

- The WI is flourishing with 29 members.
- 2015 marks the centenary of the National Federation of Women's Institute and to celebrate, events will be held in the village. Further details will be available on the Farnley Tyas Community Group website and the WI Facebook page.

### 2.0 Farnley First School

Report given by Katie Howbridge.

#### **Admissions**

Most year groups are now full or almost full. However all children from Farnley Tyas village who requested a place at the school have been accommodated.

The school has also received permission to increase admissions by up to 10 pupils in its reception year.

#### **Facilities**

It is not possible to expand the school, however the school is looking at the possibility of locating a classroom in the woods, with support from FEL, as an additional resource and teaching facility.

Possibility for such a facility to be used by wider community for after school clubs and forest schools.

Funding via a PE grant is currently being investigated, along with fundraising activities through the school.

#### **Out of hours**

The school has introduced a breakfast club for children, which would see the school open to pupils at 8am. While after school care is now also available until 6pm. The initiative will operate for an initial two-year period to determine demand and feasibility.

Thurstonland operates a similar scheme, which proved popular with parents and led to increased admissions.

### **Community involvement**

The school has been involved with the village in numerous successful school visits and projects, including:

- World War One centenary and church service.
- Visit to the bakery, where the children learned how to bake bread.

### **Events**

- Friday 28 November – School Christmas Fayre
- Tuesday 16 December – School Christmas Service at St Lucius Church

## **3.0 St Lucius Church**

Report given by Brian Mallinson.

### **Celebrations**

Brian Mallinson explained that 2015 is the church's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Plans for the celebration are in progress and involve the school. The new Bishop of Huddersfield will also be involved.

### **Church structure**

Huddersfield is now part of a super-diocese with one bishop for Leeds and Bradford, and five regional bishops.

### **Events**

- *World War One Centenary*  
The event went very well, with a higher attendance than expected, and the church was delighted to be involved along with the school and FEL.

The wreaths have now been moved into the church.

- *Harvest Festival*  
Took place on Sunday 28 September, with a children's workshop on Saturday 27 September.

Rodney Dyson supplied veg for the event. All proceeds given to Welcome Centre in Huddersfield town centre.

- Remembrance Sunday will involve the Village Memorial and takes place on Sunday 9 November.

## **4.0 Huddersfield Rifle Club**

Report given by Dave Allen and Stuart Comins.

### **Expansion**

Rifle shooting is on the up and the club has big plans for the future.

It's approaching National Governing Body for grant to help with funding expansion.



The club is also working with FEL on the possibility of creating an additional 500-yard range, which will allow it to host more, and higher profile, competitions.

### **Members**

In general membership is good, although struggling for younger members. One member, who shoots for Canada, won silver at the Commonwealth Games. Paul Sykes had passed on details of a soft air group, which is interested in speaking to the club.

## **5.0 Kirkburton Parish Council**

Report given by Robert Barraclough.

Due to the cuts being made by Kirklees Council, both Kirkburton and Shepley libraries are under threat. The Kirkburton Parish Council is organising a meeting to find a way forward.

Manor Road street lighting should now be back in synchronisation and the LED lighting is sorted.

Kirkburton walks are proving popular and maps are still available.

Dog bag dispensers within the village are being used and, at present, require refilling approximately every ten days.

Some of the fruit trees in the recreation ground have unfortunately died, but these will hopefully be replaced.

## **6.0 Bowling Club**

Report given by Paul Heaume.

### **Bowling**

Membership is strong with new bowlers joining this year.

The bowling season is coming to an end for 2014 but it's been a successful year.

The Wednesday team has already won the league with one game still to play.

The club is looking for a ladies team to play on a Tuesday.

The club is in talks with Farnley Tyas First School to start an after school bowling club for the summer term 2015.

It's also hoped that the 'Learn Bowling' project will start up again.

### **Darts and dominoes**

Darts and dominoes season has now begun.

Good start in the dominoes, with a win in the team competition.

## 7.0 Farnley Tyas Community Group

Report given by Trevor Smith.

### Events

- *Scarecrow Trail and Farnley Fest - July*  
Event went very well. There were 43 scarecrows around the village and the weekend raised £1,000 for Forget Me Not Trust.  
Possibility of hosting the event again next year in conjunction with Thurstonland village. To be confirmed.
- *World War One Centenary*  
Trevor Smith said that it had been a brilliant day for the village, and the memorial really adds to the village.
- *Christmas*  
The children's village Christmas party is planned for 7 December from 3-5pm, in the upstairs room of The Golden Cock.

### Planting

- Phase three of the community garden, planted in conjunction with FEL, the school and FTTCG, is now underway.
- 25 fruit trees have been planted in the recreation ground.

## 8.0 Chair's Report

Report given by Paul Sykes.

### Farnley Estates Limited (FEL) 25-year plan

- The Estate's 25-year plan is progressing well. More than 300 organisations, charities, clubs and community groups, representing in excess of 700,000 individuals, have been invited to have their say on the future of the Estate. The aim is to open up the Estate on a permissive basis, to encourage greater use of the land. At this stage nothing is being ruled in or ruled out, and comments / suggestions are invited.
  - Suggestion made that the bowling club should be included on future versions of the video.
- The Forum was shown the Estate's video – available on [www.farnleyestates.co.uk/the-future](http://www.farnleyestates.co.uk/the-future)

### Website

FEL can help to promote partner events and news via the website. Email [Jeanette.dyson@farnleyestates.co.uk](mailto:Jeanette.dyson@farnleyestates.co.uk) with any events / dates / competitions / fixtures that Forum members would like added to the events' calendar or news section.

### Farnley View

The autumn 2014 issue of Farnley View is now out. It can also be downloaded from [www.farnleyestates.co.uk/farnley-view](http://www.farnleyestates.co.uk/farnley-view) Any articles would be welcome.

### ***Properties***

- Elder Barn has been let to Debbie Gillespie, for her home-made cake company, Farnley Fair. Details are available at [www.farnleyfayre.co.uk](http://www.farnleyfayre.co.uk)
- Artisan bakery and café, Farnley Market is now open on Field Lane and proving popular. More details available at [www.farnleymarket.co.uk](http://www.farnleymarket.co.uk)
- 28 Manor Road – the kitchen is being refurbished and it's anticipated that it will be ready to let by the end of October.
- Extensive work is taking place at Royd House Barn, which is due for completion by the end of November.

### ***Farming update***

Estate manager, Paul Elgar, gave a comprehensive update on the farming activities taking place over the coming weeks, and plans for the next couple of years. See attached for full details.

### **9.0 Any other business**

The Forum asked to be updated on the 'logs for sale' situation. Paul Sykes explained that Paul Billingsley had now left Farnley Estates, as he has moved out of the area. There are no plans to replace Paul, and all this year's logs have now been sold. Due to woodland management plans, it will be approximately 18 months before any more logs are available for sale.

It was confirmed that John Ewart has announced he is finishing organising the Farnley Game Shoot after this year. At present there is no replacement, however the shoot is looking to appoint someone.

### **Next meeting**

Spring 2015 – date to be confirmed.

## Appendix 1

### Notes for the Forum meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014-Estate Woodland and Farmland

- i. Squirrel Wood land: the winter barley has been removed, weeding, cultivation and seeding with a grass and 20% clover mix. The reseed does look good and will require a light grazing before there is frost. The banking to Fenay Beck seems to be holding both bird life and mammals, kestrels hunting, and hopefully there will be barn owls in due course. Northern section has been worked and a nectar and pollen mix seeded.
- ii. Squirrel Wood has been weeded twice and planted trees are looking good. New stock boundary to the western boundary.
- iii. Land between Best Lane, Farnley Hey and Royd House that had been re-seeded with grass and clover a single silage crop has been taken. The land will be part grazed with fattening lambs and the remainder with sheep going to the ram. This is heavy land and will require stock being off probably mid to end of October. A strip of land against Molly Carr Wood has been seeded with a pollen and nectar mix
- iv. All land to the south of Honley Road and part north (known as half acres) will be cultivated and planted with winter wheat. The crop will be for ensiling as of July 2015. A strip of land below School Wood and behind Raygate Cottage has been cultivated and planted with a nectar and pollen mix. The mix also will encourage ground nesting birds.
- v. The remainder of land that had formed the tenancy of Park Farm has been brought back in hand. Park Farm land off Field Lane and part Manor Road has had two crops of silage taken and this will in part be fed to cattle which will be housed at the Park Farm buildings. Grazing land has been grazed with cattle followed by sheep. Some land has very high general and noxious weed content and will require at least two years cereal growth to clean the land prior to a short term grass and clover cover followed by a longer term grass, clover and vetch mix ley. Some boundaries are non-existent as boundaries and will be removed.
- vi. As part of the ongoing strategy for the estate there has been some amalgamations of tenanted land holdings and transfer of land between estate farmers. Other areas have been brought together to help the farming of the home farm.
- vii. Reforms of the Common Agricultural policy are ongoing and it would be hoped that further details will be in place for the coming October when the new grants/subsidies and conservation requirements start to roll out. The cross compliance conservation requirements are already being met and the only area that is currently causing thought is that of a three crop rotation requirement.
- viii. Three fields at Royd Farm and one at The Wood were shown to have a diverse plant mix when an assessment was undertaken. A grass management restoration plan was put in place and is now being implemented. This does involve the taking of a late hay crop from the land, scarifying and then the spreading of green hay from a seed and herb rich local source. We have been lucky with Mr Harry Clegg of Stockmoor having such meadows. An inspection of the donor meadows last week showed a diverse range of plants including Yellow Rattle and Orchids, seed



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- heads having now set and when taken and spread should give reasonable germination rates. If current sward should dominate then a light grazing during the winter will be undertaken by sheep.
- ix. The stewardship agreement does require capital works to be undertaken. These do include several lengths of restored dry stone walling work which will commence shortly. On completion, boundaries will have a top wiring to stop the attention of cattle using top stones as scratching points.
  - x. There was a scare early in the growing season when the new leaves to planted trees curled and died. Results from sampling were inconclusive though a lot of the damage was from caterpillar. There are one or two small areas that are still to recover though on the whole planted trees have had only limited mortality.
  - xi. All tree planting has been weeded at least once.

## Notes for forum meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014-property

- i. When the work commenced for the refurbishment of 28 Manor Road it did become obvious that the property had been a weaver's cottage. First floor of the property was one large space with no dividing partition, two large north facing windows and two large fireplaces. Ground floor had two small hearths and was the living accommodation. Yarn would have been brought from Farnley Mill for weaving and the field opposite the cottage was the tenter field for Netherton. Refurbishment will give good sized snug with office off, kitchen with large dining area off with utility and wc. First floor two good bedrooms on suite and house bathroom. Good gardens and parking/turning area.
- ii. Royd House Barn is nearing completion with services being connected.
- iii. Work has commenced on the development of two letting units at Low Common Farm. It will though be some period before the properties are ready for occupation.
- iv. In an effort to improve the management of repair and refurbishment of the property stock we are in the process of undertaking an inspection of all estate property. This should highlight works that are needed by priority and scheduled accordingly. It should also allow for the important matter of budgeting control.