

Item 182.2 of the December minutes a member of the Public, who was not present at the meeting, had sent a text to a parish councillor asking FPC to clarify whether there is a genuine intention to create a route along Kingsley Avenue and who will be consulting with FHMC to get permission etc.

FPC responded to the member of public with the following response:-

To give you some history as to the items on the December agenda to which you seem to have reservations:

As part of the S106 Agreement requirement for provision of Public Art associated with the whole of the Fairfield housing development (1988) Wendy Briggs, public artist, was appointed by CBC to develop designs for public art relating to Fairfield and surrounds. This public art commission relates to the orchards within Fairfield – the West Orchard and East Orchard, both of which form key open spaces within Fairfield and are designated County Wildlife Sites. This public art commission is a project managed by CBC on behalf of Fairfield Parish Council and in association with Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC).

The project plans to:

- a) Deliver permanent, robust artworks suitable for outdoors and requiring minimum maintenance, forming a trail celebrating the flora and fauna within, and potentially history of, the Fairfield orchards.
- b) Develop artwork in association with Fairfield school, Friends of Fairfield Orchards group, FPC and other interested local people to encourage engagement and understanding of the orchards, biodiversity and connecting the two orchard sites.
- c) Enable local people to participate in design processes via a programme of workshops activities and final installation to engender ownership of the orchards and artworks.

Information regarding the Art Project (AP) idea of providing educational and environmental information about the orchards was provided in the November issue of Fairfield Matters, discussed at several FPC meetings and during the Fairfield Apple day when residents could view some of the ideas under consideration and make comment to Wendy Briggs and the Parish Council. It is not a new proposal and all relevant information is and has been fully available to all residents of Fairfield for many months.

The Etonbury Green Wheel is a separate project designed, eventually to provide a continuous circular route around Fairfield, Stotfold, Arlesey and Astwick. The green spaces and routes create the rim and the paths and corridors into the localities form the spokes. There was an EGW public consultation in July with the various communities and information boards were on display in Fairfield community hall 10-23 July, these were manned on 20th July. This consultation was publicised in Fairfield Matters and minuted by FPC. The aspirations of the AP obviously have relevance to the Green Wheel and that group is part of the AP working group and is providing further finance.

The items on the December agenda were updates and proposals being considered by the AP group managed by Wendy Briggs. At the FPC meeting on Thursday the 14th December councillors made comment on several of the proposals. These included the location of the information boards, marker posts, seating, we also advised that no routes can be agreed until CBC officers have directed on the right of way along Kingsley Avenue. When that stage is reached I am sure those officers from CBC will contact the relevant landowners, should the need arise and seek agreement with them as to the route of the walk.