



## Public Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 5th March Meeting held at Firs Farm Community Hub

Present: Friends of Firs Farm Trustees - BB: Becky Beach CF: Chris Ferrary, PG: Paul Guiver,  
PC: Peter Charalambous TG: Toni Guiver (Chair), and KW: Ken Waterhouse (HCPSE)  
Apologies: Treasurer CR: Carl Redondo

Meeting opened 7pm : Welcome & 'Housekeeping - fire meeting point and toilets location.

1. Minutes from meeting 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were reviewed: 1 comment to update 1<sup>st</sup> page 'Xmas date - 14<sup>th</sup> December '-(post meeting note - actioned and uploaded the Final document to our website.

Link: [https://www.firsfarm21.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/25-12-09th-FOFF\\_Public\\_Meeting\\_Minutes\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.firsfarm21.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/25-12-09th-FOFF_Public_Meeting_Minutes_FINAL.pdf)

2. Hub Update

- The Charity has completed the work in installing a roofed pergola with flexi pave groundworks has This is a designated No Smoking / Vaping area.
- TG explained that Lighting and heating are on the horizon for under the pergola along with a fence / gate for added security and asked for feedback/suggestions.
- We also have plans for a mini library here – children can take/read books or games.  
We are still experiencing reduced pressure and flow of water to the Hub. Thames water have been to replace a bit of pipe further along Firs Lane but we are working closely with the new team in the council to resolve the water issues.

KW (HCPSE) shared details of the many bookable activities / classes held at the Hub. KW also explained where to book to see the live bands – music events: details on the Hub website. <https://www.firsfarmcommunityhub.com/>

- Details of classes and other events at the Hub - can be found on the website:  
<https://www.firsfarmcommunityhub.com/>
- To hire a room / space or the Sensory & Wellness room: <https://hallbookingonline.com/firsfarm/index.php>
- Leon's Café in the Hub is run by Ritchie Hardwicke: offers a range of drinks, pastries, cakes and pizza to purchase. Friday evenings throughout the summer, café will open 4 – 7pm with Live Bands / Musicians playing for donations.

3. Duke of Edinburgh - Presentation

Five local school boys who have been working with us over the winter months in all weathers got together to bring a presentation of the work, improvements and skills learned over their time with the Charity:

The DoE students outlined the work they have been undertaking as part of their Volunteering Activities. These included:

- Clearing debris, litter and invasive vegetation from the wetland cells and stream.
- Painting compost bins to protect them from the weather.
- Lifting/laying stones to create a safer environment for visitors.
- Planning/planting bulbs& trees.
- Dead hedging for habitat.

They also outlined what experience they had gained from the work which included:

- Tool use
- Community volunteering
- Health & safety
- Helping wildlife
- Teamwork

They received a standing ovation from the audience for their contribution to the public meeting and were all thanked for their hard work. Well done, Aaman, Alex, Albie, Edmond & Lachlan 😊.

#### 4. Firs Farm Update

TG provided a few updates:

- Disabled parking: 2 x spaces to be installed by main entrance – we are working with the council to bring 2 more spaces closer to the Firs Farm Community Hub. Expected to be just past the width restriction close to the orchard area.
- Enfield Council has undergone a lot of staffing changes which has slowed us down with progressing a number of items particularly around sports in FF: Basketball/Netball, Hockey, Football.
- A dedicated space for Girls' football has been requested by Enfield Council. But we are keen to have multi sports and to make use of the changing rooms at Clowes until such time as the changing rooms at FF can be re-established in line with the plans the Charity had for the permanent future community building in FF to replace the existing derelict building that attracts ASB.
- Wetlands Extension – due to begin in 2027. More on this later in the year
- TG provided an update on the Sensory Garden: We've still a long way to go and written permission from Enfield Council is still required before we can raise funds for this.
- Improvements to the Hedgerow protection and habitat with dead hedging and tree planting.

BB commented that it would be good to have a natural playground for children visiting FF and asked for people to help scope out what sort of play equipment this would involve

- Events coming up include: Tree planting, Easter

#### 5. Firs Farm History

Liz presented the History Project showing us information that had been uncovered. We are currently working on interpretation boards to have installed under the pergola for everyone to enjoy.

The DoE students will write about their experience to include in this project.

#### 6. Any other business:

The following items were mentioned:

- Schools: Attendees to the meeting suggested more information is fed into schools such as an information pack for parents
- Ben Bleet outlined his idea to get more people active through regular walk and talk meet-ups at FF

TG closed the meeting outlining details about volunteering opportunities, regular slots to assist with maintaining the wetlands and also about the watering season. Contact Toni if can help with this 07956 537974