

Friends of Priory Fields

Minutes of Committee meeting held on 14th Dec 2017 7.30 pm

Present

Ian Read chair [IR]

Peter Nightingale [PN]

Julie Norman [JN]

Dave Oxley-Goody [DOG]

Malcolm Whipp [MW]

- 1, Apologies, Den Harvey, Chris Saltmarsh, John Bishop
- 2, The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted, proposed by PN seconded by MW
- 3, Chairmans Report

IR had received a letter from Conservation Volunteers, did we want to renew/re-join? It was discussed and the decision was not to renew membership. A new rota for field inspection was agreed, MW to be added. Inspections to be continued on a fortnightly basis by IR, DOG, JB, MW. Meetings and work parties to continue unchanged.

Risk assessments were discussed and it was decided they were current and all agreed OK.

- 4, Finance report

Treasurer not present. Decided we need to advise Chelmsford City Council that the only costs for Xmas Raffle were the £40 licence. IR and PN to sign formal return. JB Make note to renew Lottery licence before 26th Sept 2018.

- 5, Working Party Report

Only one day this month due to Snow. On the Saturday we almost finished clearing scrub along old brook line in the West water Meadow. We should finish this in January then finish same area in the East water Meadow. Discussion on slip problem on the New Bridge [East] Should we use wire? Decided to discuss again in Spring as it's a Spring/Summer job. PN is still working on the future Work/Maintenance schedule and should have it finished prior to moving house.

- 6, Fund Raising

Xmas Lottery raised £751-00. The only costs involved were the £40 lottery Licence so a profit of £711-00. Quiz night date for May 2018 to be discussed at the next meeting in January.

7, Field Projects

PN is ordering 4 fruit trees, 2 to replace dying ones and 2 as memorial trees £65-80. Trees to be delivered to DOGs address in January. It was decided not to plant the Horse Chestnut as a memorial in the bench area as could be prone to vandalism. DOG to contact Tony Bushells wife to obtain permission to plant a fruit tree in Tony's memory. DOG has been in contact with the Essex Field Group re 2 visits, these will be Sat 19th May and Sat 25th August. Please note in your diaries to be present if possible [we may learn something?]

8, P.C. Issues

CS has contacted Bakers re an Arch Survey [no dates yet] and is going to organise another tree survey and is looking for a local expert to do this to reduce cost. The defective play equipment at the Hooe was removed 5th Dec by DOG, MW and Rowland Brown.

9, Publicity & News items

In Touch Articles need to be received by 7th Jan for next magazine. DOG to hopefully put a newsletter in the next mag. Any suggestions for content please let me know. ALL

10, A.O.B

IR presented PN with a framed picture of the Priory Arch and a bottle of wine as a thank you for his years of work with Priory Fields, We all wish Peter a Happy New Years move up North and we are sure he will get involved in some new project involving the Countryside in his new area.

Thanks for everything Peter

There wasn't any other business to discuss.

11, Date of next meeting Thurs 11th Jan 2018