
Friends of Priory Fields

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2018

Present: Ian Read, Sandy Sinclair, John Bishop, Dave Oxley-Goody, Den Harvey, Malcolm Whipp, Linden Rosam, Julie Norman and Jo Britter, Guest: Nick Rosam

1. Apologies: None
2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising:
 - a. Proposed by John Bishop and Seconded by Dave
 - b. Re item 3H (Open Spaces) Sandy commented that PC are already members so we should ask them.
 - c. Re item 8D Sandy commented that the CCTV is in the cupboard in the main hall; Sandy and Karen are both authorised persons so either one of them can access CCTV with one of us.
 - d. Re item 10B Sandy wanted it noted that she is not the “ambassador” but she will help to find one.
 - e. Re photos taken of the fields Sandy said the PC would like copies for the parish magazine. Dave said they were more artistic and not really suitable.
 - f. Re item 9 Dave commented that he had done all the articles mentioned, Linden still to do Facebook.
3. Chairman’s Report:
 - a. IR has displayed the poster received from green flag in our notice board and will ask KK to display in the council board. It was agreed that our web address should also be put on the poster. (Action IR)
 - b. Russell Wiltshire will be taken off the mailing list as he appears to have possibly moved away or is no longer interested.
 - c. Re Heritage Open Days: it was agreed that we might be interested in this next year and will review nearer to Christmas in preparation.
4. Finance Report:
 - a. We have a total of £10,387.16 at present across our current and deposit accounts and cash.
 - b. We are progressing with getting Jo as a signatory. IR is also a signatory.
5. Working Party Report:
 - a. Last working party: replaced 5 more planks on the bridge. The verticals are showing signs of rotting at the top but are not needing replacement just yet. Bob and Paul fixed 6 damaged bird boxes, probably damaged by woodpeckers or squirrels or even just weather.
 - b. Next working party: will be general tidying up and clearing brambles.
6. Fund Raising:

- a. Xmas Raffle: tickets to be printed but we need to include our lottery licence number, which is in JB's name. Action: JB to let IR have the appropriate number.
- We will ask the school if we can do our raffle draw with the carol refreshments on 3rd December
- Dave is asking Kelly's Turkeys and Paul Bailey for raffle prize each.
- Den is organising a raffle prize from Brewers and also our Xmas dinner.
- Julie is doing a food hamper and a bird feed hamper.
- Linden has a couple of boxes suitable as bases.
- All agreed a £50 budget for hamper and donations for extra prizes.

7. Field Projects:

- a. Westwood Mower has had a few problems recently. NR will look at the bottom of the engine, thinks possibly the big end has bound to the crank, which can be fixed if this is the case. NR will remove the engine and take a look. Engine date is circa 2004. Some discussion about the likely problem.
- b. Orchard: There was an email re "Orchards East" re starting up a community orchard. Dave has written to them but no reply as yet. There was some discussion about the benefits of having the orchard.
- c. Photo Club: Dave was only sent a few photographs from the club and they were really arty and not really suitable for our needs. It was great that they came and hopefully they got what they wanted from the visit.
- d. EFG (Essex Field Group): some individuals visited but we received no information from them.
- e. Burning stumps: it was felt that this exercise had been successful in saving us having to grind them down.
- f. The old bridge sleepers have been burned as they were no good for any other use.
- g. There was some talk about the big fire, which takes time to die down, and it was suggested that some kind of safety barrier might be a good idea. Den has some chain link fencing that he will bring along to the next working party.

8. PC Issues:

- a. Additional Parking: Ian had a request from PC to comment about the additional parking from FOPF perspective. There was much discussion before all agreed to support the idea in principle, with reservations regarding this then becoming the norm everyday rather than just for football match days. A parking attendant would be required. Action: IR will draft a response with reservations.
- b. Tree Survey: Only 2 trees with issues were found on Priory Fields. These involve deadwood that requires trimming/removing. Sandy suggested we ask the PC if they will have the work done when they have other trees done. Action: SS to ask PC.
- c. Field Inspections: SS reported back that we still need to do our weekly inspections and report for insurance purposes. She was asked how often the report should be sent in, eg: could it be monthly. Sandy suggested we talk directly to KK about this issue. Action: IR and Dave will arrange to speak to KK re (a) tree survey; (b) parking and (c) field inspections. JB said he would be able to step in for IR if he was unable to go.

9. Publicity: As mentioned previously Dave has done articles for Journal, Chronicle, InTouch and PC Magazine.

10. AOB:

- a. SS: re CCTV we should contact Sandy in the first instance on 07815 952 064
- b. SS reminded us all of the coffee morning on 21st Sept 11am to 1.30pm
- c. Dave wants dates for quiz night, maybe 22nd or 29th March 2019. LR to find out if these are schools hols or not. [Update: they are not school holidays]
- d. Dave found 2 sat navs tucked into a hedge, with their chargers and has had no success as yet in finding out who they belong to.
- e. Den reported that he had met a couple of people walking to see the Arch who had been visiting one of the bungalows and were interested to see more.
- f. LR: raised the point that there is a long stretch of field without a bench and it was agreed that the bench in the water meadow (which doesn't have a view of anything) could be refurbished and moved somewhere near the Orchard.

11. As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

12. Next meeting is Thursday 11 October 2018

13. Signed: Ian Read, Chairman.....