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# *Friends of Priory Fields*

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*Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018*

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

1. Apologies: Sandy Sinclair
2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising:
  - a. Proposed by Den Harvey and Seconded by Malcolm Whipp
3. Chairman's Report: The chairman's report is covered by all the items below therefore the only item to add is that DH has booked our Xmas dinner and cash to be paid to DH before the event.
4. Finance Report:
  - JB presented the account balances : C/a £1377.12 D/ac £8698.78 Cash £70.35 giving a total of £10146.25. Currently we manage to raise enough funds to cover our expenses each year, however, JB suggested that he look at a year on year comparison of expenditure by month to see if there are any correlations.
  - JoB asked if anyone has historical documentation regarding the accounts so that she can keep everything together.
5. Working Party Report:
  - Last working party: hedges were trimmed, edges cut, oiled and lubed the flail mower and tidied up the bird boxes
  - Next working party: get the bonfire going and also burn the stumps. NR suggested placing a tin over each stump to hold the fire. Also need to tidy the hedge along the path from the road.
6. Fund Raising:
  - Raffle: We still need more raffle prizes. Everyone who can to be at the school at 4.30 on 3<sup>rd</sup> December to set up. Money to be counted and checked on the night and as JB is away Jo will co-ordinate the count and take the money. Julie will collect prizes and will see Jamie at the veg shop (White Elm) re his offer of prizes. LR will see if Polish Me Pretty can offer a prize.
  - JB will let us know the profit we made at this event last year.
7. Field Projects:
  - Green Flag: IR received an email from them informing us that we will be mystery shopped in 2019. There was unanimous agreement that we should apply again.
  - U3A are visiting the fields on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The hall was provisionally booked in case they require refreshments. Update at time of writing these minutes: the hall is not required on that date.
  - NR reported that our Westwood mower needs a gasket set and once cleaned up it should be fine.
  - Bench: the bench has been moved from the water meadow to a site close to the orchard, which is a lovely spot. There was much discussion about the use of this bench because LR had asked if

she could hang a tag on it in memory of her dog (Scooby), DH said he would also like a tag on the bench in memory of his dog and it was agreed that this bench would be a doggy memorial bench. With this in mind it was agreed that it would look better if all tags on the bench were the same so we will investigate engraved brass tags and we will manage the ordering process. DOG suggested it would be best to countersink the tags onto the wooden bench slats – and will send round a link to a site he uses. We would charge a suitable fee for the tag and fitting.

- This site is very reasonable and the lettering is deep engraved and finished in permanent black, they cost £5.50 each with free postage (as far as I can tell) and I guess we could ask approx £10 for anyone who wants one supplied and fitted to the bench. We need to know what size is most appropriate.
- <https://www.identitag.co.uk/productcart/pc/Brass-Pet-Tags-c4.htm>

#### 8. PC Issues:

- Field Inspections: IR spoke to June Saltmarsh who said our reporting to the Parish Council could be once a month although we need to keep a log book to record any issues or incidents as and when they are identified and any action taken.
- Check out the “In your area” website for useful information.
- The fence post adjacent to Jokers Lane is down and will be looked at/repared at the weekend.
- LR wondered if there’s any interest in using the fields for “Park Run for Kids” although there is the possibility of the paths becoming a mess if it’s muddy?
- Parking: The PC are waiting for funding for this project. The parking space could be open whenever needed although it is intended that a gate be fitted so that there is no general access (or access to the fields).
- Tree Survey: This was organized by Parish Council some months ago. 50 trees in the Parish need work and the PC have agreed to pay for work required on 2 trees on Priory Fields. It is unknown when this work will be carried out however we need to enquire as it would be beneficial for one of us to be present at the time.

#### 9. Publicity:

- Xmas Cards: Julie will organize these and use one of IR’s photos. We only need 12 cards.
- PC newsletter: we need an article by 19 November

#### 10. AOB:

- We require a gardener to prune our fruit trees. Jo knows someone who may be able to do this around January to February time.
- Jo B’s son, Sammy, would like to make a donation to us, which would be his proceeds from making and selling lemonade.
  - Also mentioned that we could do with a donation pot at any events we hold, just in case anyone would like to make a donation.

11. As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

12. Next meeting is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7.30 pm

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