
Friends of Priory Fields

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2019

Present: Ian Read, Sandy Sinclair, John Bishop, Malcolm Whipp, Linden Rosam, Nick Rosam, Julie Norman, Jo Britter and guest John Summerford

1. Apologies: Dave Oxley Goody; Den Harvey
2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising:
 - a. Proposed by MW and Seconded by JB
3. Chairman's Report:
 - a. DoG attended BMVH AGM
 - b. Need suggestions for a speaker for our own AGM and to set a date.
 - c. Hay cut has been agreed by Allan Sheldrake
4. Finance Report:
 - a. We're still looking for the original treasurer files. Jo will ask Pam, who was treasurer for a short time. John will have another look in his study, not specifically for a pink file.
 - b. It was agreed that we would make a group donation on behalf of FoPF to Alzheimer's Society in memory of Marsha Harvey, Jo will co-ordinate.
 - c. Jo handed out the monthly Treasure's Report which showed a final profit for the Christmas Raffle of £582.70

Jo left the meeting.
5. Working Party Reports:
 - a. Last working party:
 - i. Several smallish stumps were dug out from the West Water Meadow, they had originally be cut low to the ground but were now presenting a trip hazard.
 - ii. LR will ask BMVH re maintenance of the pathways as this is usually undertaken twice a year as a contra deal for hall hire.
 - iii. Crushed concrete has been spread around various slippery areas on the pathways, it was really hard work digging into the old concrete pile but well worth the effort.
 - b. Next Working party:
 - i. Will continue spreading crushed concrete into other slippery areas if possible.
 - ii. Some of the apple trees need to be pruned and possibly the hedge separating the football field from the meadow. There was some discussion about this and it was felt that maybe it need not be done at this time.

6. Fund Raising

- a. Quiz night: We only have 3½ teams so far. Julie has a team and will call Gill who is co-ordinating. We often get calls about teams nearer the time and many people will just turn up and join with others to make new teams. JS will try and drum up a team although some of his neighbours have left the area already. JB will try and get a team together. JN reported that she is building a hamper for raffle; JB will donate a prize as will LR. SS has been given a hamper basket and will continue to put together a fruit basket. JN will source raffle tickets. SS will ask the parish council if they will field a team. In addition the footballers usually field a team. LR will put a poster on facebook page [done].

7. Field Projects:

- a. Carolyn (JB's wife) has donated some snowdrop plants which have been planted on the ditch bank in the West Water Meadow.
- b. JS (guest) came to the meeting to ask about taking a new direction with the field management now that the initial brief has been met and is being maintained. His ideas in brief:
 - i. would like to see a few wilder areas left specifically in the water meadows, areas that are not too managed;
 - ii. perhaps trying to limit where people walk and keep the pathways narrower than they are currently;
 - iii. He would like to see more wildflowers that would attract insects of various types, albeit appropriate local wildflowers;
 - iv. Also, possibly plant some additional trees and other vegetation (again of a typically local variety) in suitable areas;
 - v. All of this leading to a more conservation style approach to field management.
- c. IR gave JS a copy of the current management plan for his information and there was much discussion around these topics.
- d. JS agreed to research appropriate shrubs and flowers as a starting point.
- e. Depending upon the outcome it was agreed that we would require a longer term plan for planting and general jobs.
- f. Green Flag: IR has investigated suitable flagpoles and found that a 2 piece aluminium pole would be our best bet costing approximately £276 plus approx. £20 delivery plus a small amount for a hinged base. There was discussion about the siting and it was agreed that it should be placed near the map at the main entrance but protected as much as possible from vandalism. LR suggested that the quiz night funds be put towards the pole costs.
- g. Outdoor Camera: it was agreed that the cost of our own camera might not be the best use of funds at this time since NR is happy to use his personal camera and share the images. This decision can always be revisited in future.
- h. Use this link to view the album...
<https://www.irista.com/gallery/hwo14j73cv0x>
- i. Westwood Mower: NR reported that the repairs are done and is waiting for a suitable day to put it all together again. He reported that the carb is not

leaking and recommended turning the petrol off every time it is used. It was agreed to get a new fuel filter.

j. Husqvarna: needs the oil changed asap

8. PC Issues:

- a. SS reported on the rubbish left on the village green and said it would be cleared away asap. KK has advertised for a gardener. She had been unable to gain access to a contact at the school but would ask DoG if he has a contact.
- b. Re the outdoor cinema on 11th May: there will be an entrance fee. Everyone can bring chairs/blankets/food/drink but PC are wondering if we would like to “do” anything at the event to raise funds. After discussion it was agreed that we could host a beer and wine tent as we’ve done for previous events. Would need a licence. Can SS let us know what film is being shown – she agreed to find out.

9. Publicity: DoG has produced articles for the newsletter and other local magazines. An ad for the quiz night will be in the next PC magazine. Also to be advertised on facebook.

10. AOB:

- a. JS asked if we could replace the tree that had come down (on the other side of the garage fence). This has already been done – DoG donated a horse chestnut tree a few weeks ago that has been planted near to the site.

11. As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

12. Next meeting is Thursday 14 March 2019

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