

Minutes of the Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting held on 13th Feb 2020

Present, Ian Read, Den Harvey, Julie Norman, Malcolm Whipp, Jo Britter, Sandy Sinclair, Dave Oxley-Goody, plus guests Mary Shay and David Greenwood.

1/ Apologies from Linden and Nick Rosam.

2/ **Minutes** of the last meeting proposed by Malcolm and accepted. No Matters arising as they come up on the agenda.

3/ **Chairmans Report.** Ian gave a short report where we discussed possibly putting up signs to warn of CCTV on the fields. John Bishop has been thanked for his service and a letter to him and his reply was passed around.

We welcomed Mary Shay as an Ambassador between us and Priory School and David Greenwood who is interested in tree planting. Mary will contact the Head and endeavour to get interaction between the School and Priory Fields.

4/ **Finance.** Jo produced a copy of the accounts, the final Xmas Raffle profit was £762 -35 which was very good. Ian to send details of the above to the City Council to comply with our lottery licence under the Gambling Act. Short discussion on poo bags due to the City Council not supplying anymore. We have asked the PC to subsidise this.

5/ **Work Parties.** On the last work party we cut most of the hedge between the East Meadow and the sports field and planted fruit trees donated by Sue Greenwood and John Bishop, we also replaced a plum tree which had died. It was also noted that we had deer/rabbit damage on many of the fruit trees and additional protection was added to those trees.

Next work party will finish hedge trimming and cut back some brambles.

6/ **Fund Raising.** Quiz night on 27th March discussed, everything is organised raffle prizes required but agreed we would double up raffle prizes if too many due to time constraints on the night.

7/ **Field Projects.** As mentioned earlier we have now probably finished the orchard project so maintenance only required now. We have heard from the owners of the land for sale behind the arch. Our offer of £10K for part of the land is unlikely to be accepted but they will discuss.

The Old Bridge linking the Monument Field to the Water Meadows, which has partially collapsed, was discussed. Alan Sheldrake has looked at it and we are awaiting his estimate to replace the bridge. Dave to contact him. It was decided to cordon off the whole bridge as there was a risk that the rest could collapse. David Greenwood has some chain link fencing which he is happy to supply for this and will contact Dave to pick up and we have a length which was given by Den.

Following a suggestion by David Greenwood, there was a long discussion about planting more trees of a more mature size. Possibly add an area of woodland in the West Meadow? The general thought was that it was better to increase field boundary depth and plant trees in field corners but nothing decided. David Greenwood is going to contact Woodland specialists and explore possibilities for grants/tree donations by villagers.

8/ PC Matters. The Village Fair on 20th June was discussed and several members thought it a good way to raise some funds and increase awareness with our attendance. We should give some thought to how. Sandy asked if we could find a supply of straw bales to give seating etc. Dave to contact Alan Sheldrake re this. On the 1st May there is an Afternoon Tea at the Village Hall in aid of the Air Ambulance, everybody welcome.

9/ Publicity and News. Adverts for our AGM and Quiz night to go into the Parish Newsletter and In Touch. Also an article on our problems etc.on the fields recently.

10/ Any Other Business As it was getting late and all items covered by agenda, No O.B.

11/ Date of next meeting Thurs 12th March 2020 at 7.30 pm