

Minutes of Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting
11th January 2024

Present. Ian Read, Trevor May, Dave Oxley-Goody, Den Harvey, Nick Rosam, Malcolm Whipp, Val Dawes, Angelina Robinson, Mary Shay, Julie Norman.

Apologies for absence. Jo Britter and Sandy Sinclair.

Minutes of last meeting. Read and agreed.

Chairman's report. Details for the Green Flag application due at end of January. There is evidence of motorcycles being ridden on the fields. There was a record profit from our raffle.

Finance. The latest finance report was presented to us by Ian as Jo was absent. Current account - £2947.33, deposit account - £8497.60 and cash in hand £110.50. There were no expenses but an income of raffle tickets sales £1,333.70 and dog tag sales of £10.50. The final total for the raffle was £1333.70 minus raffle ticket printing of £51.00 making a net profit of £1282.70.

Field projects. The trees in the orchard have been partially pruned but more is needed. The hedge dividing the football field and the east meadow will hopefully be pruned soon preferably before the birds start nesting.

Working party. Last month Saturday was cancelled due to bad weather. On Sunday wood chip was spread. Checked and cleared overhanging branches. The ditch and hawthorn hedge by the garage needs to be tidied. Possibly dig trenches near the muddy areas to help drain. Possibly plant marginal plants in East Water Meadow?

Events. The Christmas raffle was a great success, our best one yet, and we will hold another next year. Angelina wanted to thank all the people involved for all the work that was done. The Christmas meal was successful and hopefully will be held again next year at the Cygnet Room. The fun run being held on 25th February is at 1.30. A risk assessment has been done and the insurance needs to be checked and the company made aware of the event. May need to make adjustments in places where there could be wet and muddy areas and trip hazards.

P.C. Matters. Richard Poulter wants a surveyor to be appointed to value the land next to the arch. The PC will help with finance if the fields can be purchased. We need to check if the field is protected in any way as this would affect its value in relation to future development.

Publicity and news items. No publicity this month.

Any Other Business. None.

Date of next meeting. - Thursday 8th February 2024.