

**Minutes of Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting**  
**7th March 2024**

**Present.** Ian Read, Dave Oxley-Goody, Trevor May, Nick Rosam, Malcolm Whipp, Val Dawes, Sandy Sinclair and Julie Norman.

**Apologies for absence.** Angelina Robinson, Den Harvey and Jo Britter

**Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising.** Read and agreed.

**Finance.** Jo was absent and therefore passed the account report to Julie. Our latest accounts are:- Current account - £3097.33, deposit account- £8529.38 and cash in hand - £110.50. There was a donation of £50.00 and interest of £31.78. The total funds are £11737.21. We would like to thank Dave and Malcolm for helping a horse owner with her stable move and she made a donation to FoPF.

**Field projects.** To hire a trenching machine for drainage around the bottom of the west meadow and around the bridges will cost £150 a day. The total cost with piping and shingle will be approximately £600. The ground will need to be dry so hopefully will be able to do around May-June. Gorse saplings have been ordered for the entrance. Too late to cut the hedge between the east meadow and football field as nesting time.

**Working party.** The last working party-spread more wood chip and cleared the stream. The next working party-general clearing and bonfire. Weather forecast is good for Saturday but wet on Sunday.

**Events.** The fun run was held on 25th February despite the amount of mud. The money raised for Little Havens was £1157.00. The Friendship club has invited us again to their Christmas craft fair. This proved extremely successful last year for selling raffle tickets.

**P.C. matters.** We are waiting to hear from English Heritage regarding any restrictions that may be on field next to the arch. As Mary was not present there was no PC report.

**Publicity and news items.** Article to go into In Touch regarding holiday homes in the past around the arch and Dave did a very successful interview on Essex Radio.

**Any other business.** The new trees are looking very healthy probably due to all the rain.

**Date of next meeting.** Thursday 11th April 2024 - 7.30.