

Minutes of Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting
6th March 2025

Present. Ian Read, Dave Oxley-Goody, Den Harvey, Malcolm Whipp, Nick Rosam, Julie Norman, Sandy Sinclair and Jo Britter.

Apologies for absence. Val Dawes, Trevor May, Mary Shay and belated apologies from Angelina Robinson.

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

Finance. Jo presented the accounts. Current account - £673.43, deposit account - £10,580.16 and cash in hand - £166.50. The total funds are £11,420.09. Expenses were £125.00 for bridge survey and the income was a donation of £125.00 (gratefully received from In Touch) and interest on deposit account of £35.83. Jo asked if any outstanding expenses could be put in this month ready for end of financial year.

Field projects. The Priory Bridge has been surveyed, and it is deteriorating quite badly. There are three options, to take it away permanently, replace it with a plastic culvert, similar to how we replaced the Farm Bridge or replace with new. There was a vote and it was agreed to have a new bridge costed before making a final decision. Ian produced a quote for a completely new bridge with steel beams for comparison. It was agreed to meet Terry Hyland, the expert who surveyed the bridge, for him to design and quote for the most cost effective repair or replacement. Work this week to still be clearing the new field.

Working party. Last working party was clearing the new field and trying to light a bonfire but extremely wet. This week will be the same.

Events. Sandy very kindly contacted RSPB and we are going to have a speaker at our AGM to give a talk on 'the birds in our garden' on June 5th. It was decided to have cheese and wine at the meeting. The speaker is not charging but would be grateful for a donation to the charity.

P.C. matters. There were no PC matters.

Publicity and news items. News article has already gone in parish magazine and will also go into the Contact magazine.

Any other business. Sandy pointed out that the BVFC Christmas Market will not be held this year as the Village Hall was already booked. This will affect the sale of our Christmas Raffle tickets.

Date of next meeting. Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30.