

Minutes of Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting
12th June 2025

Present. Ian Read, Dave Oxley-Goody, Den Harvey, Malcolm Whipp, Julie Norman, Trevor May, Jo Britter, Val Dawes.

Apologies for absence. Angelina, Sandy and Nick

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

Finance. Jo presented the accounts. Current account - £85.30, deposit account - £10,615.31 and cash in hand - £171.50. The total funds are £10,872.11. Expenditure was fuel - £45.97, website - £82.00 and landscaping - £350.00. Income - interest £35.15. The website cost has increased. The interest rate for deposit account has dropped to 1.20%. Jo is to move £71.50 cash into current account.

Field projects. Regarding the grants to help fund the new bridge - the closing date for Asda grants closed in March so to be reviewed later. Chelmsford Council (CIL) only open for non parish council grants. We are looking to the Co-op, Awards for All (part of Lottery Fund), the Parish Council and possible crowd funding. The new field has now been levelled and the scrap metal removed. Hope to open this weekend with notices warning of trip hazards. Maybe consider having an official opening day.

Working party. Last working party flailed new field, mowed, strimmed grass and completed the levelling with digger. This weekend the field needs to be flailed again ready to open with notices warning of uneven ground and possible trip hazards. Old Westwood mower to be repaired by company in Mundon.

Events. The AGM on 3rd July with Steve Bates giving a talk on bio diversity and how it will affect the fields. We will be having cheese and wine as well as teas and coffees.

P.C. Matters. Still waiting to hear about a new representative.

Publicity and news items. Article pending in Parish magazine.

Any other business. Waiting to hear the results of the Green Flag award in late June. Had a letter from DEFRA regarding nitrate pollution which does not affect us.

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