

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2012

Present:	Ian Read (Vice Chairman)	Geoffrey Woricker
	Linden Rosam	Julie Norman
	Chris Saltmarsh	Bob Norman
	Peter Nightingale	Jo Britter
	Den Harvey	

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	John Bishop; Peter Athey
2.	MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
	The minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2012 were proposed by Peter Nightingale and seconded by Den Harvey and signed.
3.	PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RX1 : the PC agreed to go ahead with the RX1 and CS will liaise with JB when he returns from his holiday. Action: JB & CS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS reported that an individual has offered to buy/donate a tree for the jubilee and agreed to find out more before we make a decision. Action CS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fee for clearing the ditch between Priory Playing Field and the Football Field was discussed and it was agreed that CS would progress this with the Parish Council. Action: CS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that a copy of the approved minutes of these meetings should be forwarded to the parish clerk. Action: LR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hay Crop: The hay was not bailed because the weather conditions were unsuitable and the hay was considered to be still too wet for bailing on the appointed day. Instead, it is intended that the hay be flailed on 3 fields (not on the water meadows). The most appropriate time for this is when we have a frost.
4.	Treasurer's Report
	Treasurer is away at the moment.
5.	Working Parties
	Various jobs have been done in line with the maintenance plans. It is anticipated that the new memorial tree will be planted in December, possibly the 8 th or 9 th and also that the hedging would be planted at the top end of the memorial field.
	The benches that have graffiti on them will be re-stained – Ian has some 'Red Cedar' stain but CS suggested we could borrow the actual stain from Roy.
6.	Publicity
	Brown Sign: It was reported that we are not eligible for a brown sign because they are not erected for monument's, therefore, this option is closed. It was suggested that perhaps we could look at changing the existing sign, which is provided by highways department.
	Christmas Cards: These are in progress. Julie will produce 12 and will liaise with IR to confirm recipients. Also, to include MAHG.
	Our contribution to the PC newsletter needs to be in by 16 th November.

7.	Field Projects
	Orchard: PN reported that he would like to plant some older, more traditional varieties of fruit tree and is liaising with a person at Hyde Hall. The ground needs to be cleared of nettles; mowed in the summer with a view to planting next autumn. The trees would probably be half standards because they would be easier to mow under.
	Arch Hedging: hedging plants are on order for December.
	Colour: It is intended to plant bluebells around and between the fruit trees but this cannot be done until the trees have been planted so probably for spring 2014. IR suggested planting some bluebells in the memorial field this year.
	Nest Boxes: The cubs are making 27 nest boxes (6 for bats; 6 are open fronted; and the remainder are conventional). The girl guides and brownies are also interested so we will try and involve them in this project this time next year. In the meantime PN will renew his dormouse licence and then we can possibly produce some dormouse boxes. Several ideas for other boxes we might provide were put forward such as tawny owl, kestrel, bug boxes etc. The guides and brownies might be interested in producing one or more of these types. There was also talk of reintroducing hedgehogs and PN will contact Tiggywinkles about this.
	Night Time Stroll: It was suggested that a night time stroll might be organised for anyone who wants to come along to see whatever can be seen at night time. Perhaps this could happen next year in the springtime. Could school kids be included?
8.	AGM
	The next AGM will be in 6-7 months time, approx early May. Ideas were discussed about making it into more of an event than usual and that it could be publicised at the parish council's annual meeting. Any ideas to JB/IR please.
	It was suggested that leaflet drops were specifically targeted to Priory Road and Augustine Way and Priors Field residents both for volunteers and for the AGM.
	It was agreed that we await the date of the Annual Parish meeting before we set the actual date of our AGM.
9.	Xmas Dinner
	The Anchor at Danbury charges £22.95 per person. A table for 10 has been booked for 8pm sit down. £10 deposit per person is required by end of November with menu choices. We will also invite John, Paul & Rob as well as Brian Riley.
	It was agreed to give Brian one of our prints of the arch. IR will find a frame (suggestion was the framer at Horseshoe Nursery)
10.	News Items
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ian had spotted a picture of the Priory for sale on ebay (at £90) and had a print of it to show us as it is one that we have not seen before.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The arch inspection: CS reported that the wash coat is working and there are no structural problems. Its in fairly good condition. Another inspection will be carried out in two or three years time.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re the schematic plan of the arch – no update yet. Review MAHG site for ideas for web page
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ash Trees: will be inspected at the next working party and if we think our tree(s) may be infected then we should contact the tree officer at Chelmsford city council (Lynn Cameron) and find out what to do next.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IR has 15% discount from Doe's which he will use toward servicing the husqvarna and the other one next year so that we alternate. This was agreed. Action: IR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CS reported that we will be competing for the village of the year and asked if we

	would be willing to be involved.
11.	NEXT MEETING
	The next main Committee meeting will be held on 13 December 2012 at 7.30pm
	Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed:

Date: