

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12th October 2017 7:30PM

Present: Ian Read (Chair)
Peter Nightingale(PN)
Julie Norman(JN)
Dave Oxley-Goody (DO-G)
Malcolm Whipp (MW)
Russell Wiltshire (RW)
John Bishop (Minute Taker)(JB)
Den Harvey (DH)
Geoffrey Woricker(GW)
Chris Saltmarsh(CS)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Athey, Pam Dawson

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A brief presentation from a local printer (Printwarehouse), who had agreed to print our raffle tickets free of charge, explaining his printing methods and products was followed by some thoughts on how we might be able to improve some of our signage and banners.

Some progress has been made on the hay crop and it is hoped it will be completed this weekend.

Following our recent contacts with Ken Crowe, who is an enthusiastic student of medieval architecture, the Chairman suggested he might be a suitable speaker for a future AGM – to be considered when arranging the next AGM.

The date for a Christmas meal for all committee and working party members at the Brewers, was suggested as Monday December 11.00 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. This was agreed by all.

Peter Nightingale is planning on moving away from the area, the date depending on house sale. The Chairman hopes to establish a rolling plan of maintenance for the Fields before Peter leaves us.

The PC have agreed to continue to pay for our use of the Village Hall for meetings and have recently provided an up to date insurance certificate.

The new Flail mower has been delivered. Payment for the mower was made by MW using his own bank card. JB was requested to ensure MW was refunded as soon as possible. JB also requested to send a copy of the invoice to the Parish Clerk to ensure it is included in the PC insurance.

It was advised that DO-G is now a qualified first aider.

It was agreed that the raffle tickets should be printed asap, with the usual main prizes mentioned, but also with a list of 'thank you's' to prize donators on the back of the tickets.

4 FINANCE REPORT

The monthly finance report was circulated at the meeting – no questions arose.

JB advised that 5 people are registered with Barclays as signatories on our accounts – PN, JN, JB DO-G and Linden Rosam, who no longer takes an active role in the committee. It was agreed that we leave Linden on the list as she still takes an interest in the group and would be useful to have as a back-up, when others are on holiday.

It was advised that there is no limit to the number of signatories Barclays will allow, but there are indications that a charge might arise in the future if there is more than a small number.

5 REPORTS ON WORKING PARTIES

Work done at the last working party included mowing all paths, clearing a further area in the West water meadow, removing a number of dead tree branches and burning the remaining debris from previous working parties, along with new debris.

6 FUND RAISING

After some difficulties with the make-up of the Christmas Hamper prize for the raffle, JN agreed to take over responsibility for the prize.

The date to draw the raffle is now confirmed as December 4. Pam has managed to get several prizes from the White Elm shops.

JB advised that the appropriate licence to run a raffle had been obtained at a cost of £40.

7 FIELD PROJECTS

The Green Flag Inspection had taken place recently and we already have the report, which raises no problems. A ROSPA inspection for the PC raised two minor problems - the wood making up the bridge to the Arch field, which is now more than 10 years old, needs some refurbishment and the wooden planks in the benches around the fields, which are of similar age, also need refurbishment.

Our new flail mower has been delivered and will be used at the coming working weekend.

8 PC-RELATED ISSUES

CS advised that:-

A potential survey of the Priory Arch will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

A meeting with a potential contractor for improving car park markings is scheduled soon.

Nothing will be done about keys for the barrier to the fields until a new gate is put in.

The Neighbourhood plan had been abandoned by the PC because of lack of public interest.

The Village Hall will be closed for the week beginning October 23 for refurbishment.

Planning permission for the containers/changing rooms on the playing field is being sought.

The old swing frame and trim trail on The Hooe need to be removed – DO-G and MW volunteered to do that.

9 **PUBLICITY, NEWS ITEMS & AOB**

As previously announced our display boards were on display at the Local History Exhibition in the Woodham Ferrers Church on Saturday/Sunday 16/17 September. We understand the event was well attended.

DO-G agreed to take over care of the projector screen from PN.

10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday November 16th at 7.30pm.

Signed: