

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 December 2012

Present:	John Bishop (Chairman & Treasurer)	Geoffrey Woricker
	Ian Read (Vice Chairman)	Julie Norman
	Linden Rosam (Secretary)	Bob Norman
	Peter Nightingale	Chris Saltmarsh

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Den Harvey; Peter Athey; Jo Britter
2.	MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 th November 2012 were proposed by Chris Saltmarsh, seconded by Ian Read and accepted by the committee as a record of that meeting.
3.	PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES
	RX1: Our submitted RX1 was rejected and the explanation given was that the wording was non standard. JB reported that the Priory Fields Management Committee had suggested writing to the Land Registry asking for their comments and advice. John had drafted a letter, which was passed around the meeting for comments. He also reported that we had paid £50 for standard wording and it would cost us an additional £40 for our own wording. All agreed on the contents of the letter and on the additional fee.
	Hay Crop: The meeting accepted that the problems experienced with the hay crop this year were purely weather based therefore it was agreed that we would ask the same contractor to do our hay crop next year. Also agreed was that as this years' hay crop was a late cut, next year would be an earlier cut in line with our management plan. However, an early cut should not be before the beginning of July. Action: PN to check early cut dates; GW to inform contractor.
	Deed of Covenant: Action: CS to speak with Richard Poulter.
4.	TREASURERS REPORT/BUDGET ITEMS
	The treasurers' report was briefly discussed in that there had been very little movement during the month.
5.	WORKING PARTIES
	It was reported that hedging had been planted at top of Arch field. The new memorial tree (a wild cherry) was planted in memory of Veronica Dieu De Bellefontaine and about 30 people (friends, family and neighbours) came to help. Veronica had helped at one of the early working parties and would most likely have continued but for her illness. Also the team continued with clearing the ditch between playing field and football field.
	Ian asked if we might consider buying a shredder as there is so much wood and bramble to chop, move and burn. After some discussion it was agreed by the committee (proposed by IR; seconded by PN) to hire a chipper/shredder for a weekend in order to try one out and see

	<p>whether or not it might be beneficial for us to purchase our own. The hire fee will be charged to the Equipment Hire Budget and it should be kept in our garage for security.</p> <p>Ian reported that the loppers we have are not good and he would like to buy new ones. After discussion it was agreed that he had sufficient in his budget for hand tools to purchase one pair large loppers and one pair small loppers and possibly a pair of secateurs.</p>
	Ian will send out emails to remind people about working party approx one week prior.
	The inspection rota needs to be redone for the coming year and all agreed to participate. Action: Ian to draw up a new inspection rota for 2013
	We have received a letter from the Village Hall committee thanking us for clearing their path and asking if they could make a contribution of some kind. After discussion it was agreed that we would ask for a contribution towards our tools.
	Peter suggested that we may be able to purchase tools through the National Trust (he is a volunteer) and he agreed to investigate further. Action: PN
6.	PUBLICITY
	Brown Sign: This issue was discussed but further enquiries need to be made before we have any resolution. It was suggested that we ask English Heritage and ECC for any advice or guidelines; also speak with Ian Grundy. Action: JB and CS
	Xmas Cards: Julie has produced lovely Christmas cards, these were passed around the room for signature.
	PC Newsletter: our contribution to the newsletter has been submitted
	Asda Tokens: This has gone quiet so the meeting wondered whether it is possible to find out when it would be our turn. Action: PN
7.	FIELD PROJECTS
	<p>ORCHARD: Peter reported that he has a contact in Norfolk (A. Helman) re fruit trees, which are grown as half standards. He has invited him and people from Hyde Hall for a tour of the fields. The trees should be planted next autumn.</p> <p>There may be a grant available from Defra to cover the cost of the trees. Action: PN to cost and investigate grants.</p>
	<p>PRIORY OUTLINE: It is unknown as yet quite how far the priory extended onto Tony Chambers land and we need to find out whether the archaeological society have completed their investigations or are willing to continue further. There was some discussion about how to proceed with the new board and it was agreed that the most sensible solution would be to speak with Brian Riley first to get all the facts then pass those onto Rod Brown for him to draft some artwork. Action JB</p>
	BIRD BOXES: Peter reported that 27 have been done so far and that he will be working with the cubs, probably one weekend soon, to put some of them up. Action: PN
	ASH TREES: We continue to keep a watchful wait regarding our ash trees but will probably have to wait until spring (May for Ash) to see if there is any evidence of disease.
	FREE TREES: We have applied for a free tree pack from the Woodland Trust (sponsored by Sainsbury, Ikea and others). Our application was for a Wild Harvest community tree pack of approx 420 trees. We now have to wait and see if we are allocated a pack, which happens around March time. We could potentially involve youth groups if allocated.
8.	NEWS ITEMS
	Peter reported that he had been offered off cuts for nest boxes by a father of one of the cub scouts.
	Xmas meal is next Wednesday and all those attending agreed to contribute to the cost of Brian Riley's meal.

12.	NEXT MEETING
	The next Committee meeting will be held on 10 January 2013 apologies received from Peter Nightingale who will not be able to attend.
	Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed:

Date: