

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14th NOVEMBER 2013

Present: John Bishop (Chairman and Acting Minute Secretary)
Tony Bushell
Den Harvey
Peter Nightingale
Julie & Bob Norman
Ian Read
Chris Saltmarsh
Geoffrey Woricker

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Athey, Dave Oxley-Goody, Ruth Collen

2. MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

It was proposed by IR and seconded by GW that the minutes be accepted.

3. FINANCE

A summary of the past months financial transactions was presented to the committee and members were advised that all expenditure items are within budget. The lack of interest on our savings was discussed and it was agreed we should investigate alternative banking arrangements. JB to make some enquiries.

4. WORKING PARTIES

IR reported on the work done by the recent working party.

JN suggested that we might take over the planting of the tubs on the village green, although not much could be done until the PC has established a new plant supplier.

The question of re-siting the Michael Turner bench onto Priory Fields, once replaced following the recent heavy winds, was raised. CS was asked to obtain the views of the PC.

5. PC RELATED ISSUES

CS reported that the PC would now start investigating the Deed of Covenant. The recent request from the PC for more information for insurance and accounting purposes was discussed. IR and JB to provide requested information.

6. FIELD PROJECTS

PN reported that the Apple Orchard should be planted in January, but he intended to place some stakes in the ground in the near future to mark the tree positions.

The trees from the Woodland Trust will be planted on Saturday, November 16th, with help from guides and brownies, although nothing has yet been heard from the Cubs. Some of the Rowan and Hazel trees included on the package will be retained for planting in different areas.

The new information board was discussed and the potential cost of around £2,000 was explained to the committee. It was agreed that we should proceed on that basis. It was decided that the board should be sited to the east of the Arch, just inside the stones marking the eastern boundary of the Priory. It was agreed that we should look for potential grants for the board. Some introductory words for the board are needed and JB will draft something for consideration by the committee. Consideration is also to be given to replacing the Celtic cross symbol on the original design – it was suggested that we could seek out the stained glass window that was a part of the later church on the site to see if that could be used in any way – JB to follow up.

Contacts with Tony Chambers to pursue the purchase of additional land were explained to the committee, together with a diagram showing the extent of the proposed land purchase. TC has asked us to make an offer for the land required and a figure was agreed for an initial offer. A higher figure was also agreed if there is a need to increase

the offer. Any need to go beyond the second figure will be referred back to the committee.

Hand rails have recently been added to the new bridge and it is hoped that further hardcore will be added to the structure in the near future.

7. PUBLICITY

Notes to go in the next In Touch were suggested to JN.

JN suggested that this years Christmas cards should be obtained from Moonpig or similar, as this will save money – agreed.

8. NEWS ITEMS

Arrangements for Christmas Meal confirmed.

PN reported that two new species have recently been added to the field list – bullfinch and spindle tree.

Applications for next years Green Flag award are now open and it was agreed that we should again apply – JB to action.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, December 12th.