

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING ON 09 March 2011

Present: John Bishop (Chairman) Gordon Flood (left 9pm)
 Ian Read (Vice Chairman) Peter Athey (left 9.10pm)
 Bob Norman Julie Norman
 Linden Rosam (Treasurer)

Apologies:

1. **APOLOGIES**

Kate Hardingham (Minute Secretary); Chris Saltmarsh (PC Rep); Peter Nightingale; Derek Wybrow

PA confirmed that he had notified HLF regarding Kate's appointment as secretary.

2. **MINUTES**

It was noted that the minutes presented to the meeting were not actually the final version for the last meeting. It was agreed that the final version would be presented at the April meeting for sign off.

3. **LIAISON MEETING WITH PARISH COUNCIL**

3.1 **Bridge Safety**

Ian and John had visited Danbury Lakes where they spoke to a warden who informed them that ECC self-insure up to £1.2m and yet they are quite happy to use chicken wire as a non-slip surface on wooden bridges similar to ours.

There was some discussion regarding options for the bridge and it was agreed that John should draft a response and circulate for comment.

3.2 **Trust**

We need to write to PC regarding procedure for dealing with the extra 7 acres. We also note that PC cannot make nominations for trustees until after the election.

3.2 **Field Inspections**

System working well. Continue weekly.

3.3 **Dog Fouling**

We now have 2 jackets from the PC to be worn by anyone patrolling the fields and 6 FoPF jackets for use during working parties and patrols as appropriate. They will be kept in the garage.

3.4 **Picnic Benches**

It was noted that we are still awaiting 2 new benches from the PC to replace the 2 given to PC and located at the Hooe. Apparently they are now being made again and we hope to receive the 2 asap.

3.6 **Priory Arch**

It was noted that CS will ask Bakers to check the Arch and let us know how it is progressing. Agreed that a basic inspection of the Arch should be added to the weekly checklist, just to note if anything obvious required attention.

IR to change inspection form

4. TREASURERS REPORT/BUDGET ITEMS

The previous report still stands as there are a couple of small items being reconciled, which will be reported next month.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Rural Payments Agency maintains a database of fields. JB and IR have measured our fields and sent off the details. The next step is for PN to get the environmental stewardship chap in to verify what we can claim for.

6. WEBSITE

The initial update to CMS has been done and the invoice presented for payment. The remainder of the work will be £194.95 and should enable us to maintain the site the way we want for quite some time. The meeting took a vote on whether to authorise this expense and it was unanimously agreed.

8. WORKING PARTIES

A memorial tree was planted for the Scouts in memory of Graham Fox and bramble cleared in the south western corner of the East Meadow.

This weekend the intention is to tidy up in general. It is too wet for mowing.

The battery in the new mower is not good. Priory garage have offered to test it when it's fully charged so that a decision can be made about whether or not to purchase a new one.

9. EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

9.1 Easter Sports Programme

PC would like us to produce a treasure hunt/nature trail for ages 3-6 and 7-12. Probably Thurs 14 and Mon 18 April. CBC is running the programme and would be grateful for any help.

PA will try and find the original treasure hunt docs and pass on to Julie.

9.2 Annual Parish Assembly

Friday 6th May at 7pm. We will put up and man a stand. We have been asked to make a brief presentation. The theme of the meeting will be "Youth and the future" and this should be the theme of our presentation in some way.

Need to find out if a projector will be available.

9.3 September Country Fayre

A stall fee of £50 was agreed for the Hog roast provider rather than a percentage of the takings. The Owls are available that day but require £50 expenses.

9.4 Whitsun event idea to be scrapped.

9.5 Photographic Competition

We have 2 judges for the photo competition – 1 technical, Mike Kellett and 1 artistic, Rod Brown. Posters have gone out and entries are to be sent to the paper shop in print form only. We still require a prize for the child category.

JB will ask Church & Hawes for a contribution

10. **PUBLICITY/GREEN FLAG AWARD**

10.1 **In Touch Magazine**

Nothing noted.

10.2 **The Journal**

Nothing noted.

10.3 **Woodham Ferrers Focus**

Nothing noted.

10.4 **Green Flag Award**

Awaiting the judge.

11. **NEWS ITEMS**

PC is locating a litter bin at the Moor Hall Lane entrance to Priory Fields. It will be fixed with a concrete base and organised by PC.

GW will ask Simon Hollington if he will do the hay cut this year on the same terms as 2009 but to be cut in June/July.

12. **NEXT MEETING**

The next main Committee meeting will be on 14 April 2011.

Meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Signed:

Date: