

Minutes of Friends of Priory Fields committee meeting
6th August 2026

Present. Dave Oxley-Goody, Val Dawes, Julie Norman, Ian Read, Den Harvey, Trevor May, Steve Bates and Sandy Sinclair.

Apologies for absence. Jo Britter and Nick Rosam.

Minutes of last meeting and Matters arising. Read and agreed.

Finance. Trevor presented the accounts on behalf of Jo. Current account - £2,155.57, deposit account - £7020.95 and Cash in hand - £226.90. The total funds are £9,403.42. Expenditure was fuel - £44.52, maintenance - £23.64 (paving slabs and sand) and tools - £28.00 (trimmer line). Income - none

Field projects. All the fields have had the hay cut. The most productive fields were the water meadows and the arch field. The damage to one of the picnic benches will cost approximately £150 to repair according to quote. The family of Paul Harden wish to place a bench on the fields in his memory, a position to be decided.

Working party. Removed the fallen tree over the brook and watered the new trees. Also put wood chip down on path to Priory Bridge. Will need the bowser to water the trees again due to the drought. Positioned marker slabs on west end of the footprint of the original priory. Fallen trees in Priory Wood and the west meadow to be trimmed. Trees need lopping along the school fence by the entrance to the fields.

Events. On 19th September to put up boards and the banners for Danbury Eco Fayre in the Dawson Suite at Danbury Leisure Centre. Will confirm next meeting who will be attending. A short video is to be filmed this week of the fields for Heritage Day. On 16th August the re enactment group will be on the fields to take photos as per last month's minutes. A thank you to all who attended the festival to go on Facebook.

P.C. Matters. A report is attached by Trevor regarding the conversion to CIO. The committee to make a decision at next meeting as to the way forward. There is some urgency to start the process when the decision has been made. Waiting to hear regarding the gates into Priors Field as Bob (PC rep) was not at the meeting.

Publicity and news items. Nothing this month.

Any other business. Lucy is to let us have the keys to the local parish notice boards so we can keep them updated. A group called the Strollers would like to visit the fields and have a brief talk on the 15th October. To thank Steve for all his hard work and his contribution financially regarding the festival it was agreed to buy him a gift.

Date of next meeting. Thursday 10th September 2026, 7.30.