

## Minutes of Friends of Meadow Park Committee Meeting , 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Apologies for absence: Deb, Paul, Kevin Shaw, Mollie.

Present: Alan, Andy, Neil, Andrew, Kevin Gibbons, John, Lorna, Trevor ( minutes)

MINUTES OF THE AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2011. A draft had been circulated on 28th November 2011 and was accepted. Trevor suggested that it should be passed to the ELPC at this juncture as “approved by the Committee, but awaiting ratification on the 21 November 2012”. Agreed.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2011. A draft had been previously circulated and was ratified.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES:

It had been agreed on 5/10/11 to explore Open Office v3.3.0 as described by Mr Tony Perry but any further activity was deferred indefinitely.

ARBORETUM (John) No wind damage or vandalism to report. Alan asked about replacing trees and John said it should be considered within the next month. Trevor asked if it was in order to plant in possibly diseased soil where trees had died. John said planting would be nearby. Alan suggested new trees be delivered to the Bateman Road entrance.

John circulated illustrations of laminated plastic labels, measuring 3 x 4 inches. These are black plastic with white lettering and weatherproof. They could be hung from trees . Large elaborate signs might encourage vandalism and these might not. Andrew remembered that Conrad had talked about aluminium strip apparatus, on which names of trees could be typed, used by the National Trust. They should last two or three years. It is possible that the equipment was held in the Parish Office. John's labels cost £3 each plus VAT plus delivery – a total of £130 estimated.

ACTION John

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES. Alan had received a reply from the ELPC. They suggested that a list of sponsors be exhibited in semi permanent form on the notice board. Andrew asked about sponsorship of benches, as more were needed. Trevor asked what the sponsorship fee would be and £20 was agreed.

ACTION Alan

TRIM TRACK. ( Kevin not present) Alan was of the opinion that we had given this exercise a good go, but there was no deep support for it. Lafarge had offered £50,000 if ELPC could pledge £5000, which was not forthcoming. It is a pity for a £50,000 to slip through our fingers.

DOG FOULING ( Andrew) The editor of East Leake Times would produce a short article (hopefully).

FLOWER, BIRD, TREE WALKS 2012 ( Trevor) Agreement received was :-Max birds spring and/ or autumn, Dennis May and Ann June. Kevin offered to give a talk on *Lepidoptera* in association with Ann's presentation. Agreed Trevor write to the participants asking them to name their preferred date, avoiding bank and school holidays. Lorna was proposed to contact Harry Carlton School about these walks. Trevor proposed that at least one Committee Member attend each walk in case excess

people appeared. An additional general talk on MP could be presented. Trevor suggested that Mollie's posters for each walk be emailed to all FMP members, for downloading and widespread display. ACTION Trevor

NOTICE BOARD, PICNIC BENCHES (Alan) the lectern type displays cost £1000 including installation.

CHILD MEMBERSHIP. The constitution had been amended at the 2011 AGM to include child membership. Membership application forms had been altered accordingly.

FIELD MARGINS/SCRUB ROTA (Neil) Nothing had been done. The matter would have to be pursued with Richard. ACTION Neil/Richard

BAT SURVEY (Trevor) David Stock of Hathern would carry out a survey next spring. He was experienced locally (Stamford Hall) and had equipment to pick up bat signals. Kevin said that these surveys were sometimes carried out in association with moth surveys. Trevor suggested that he coordinate with David. ACTION Trevor/Kevin.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Trevor).

MANAGEMENT PLAN. RBC had made it effective for 2012. It could be reviewed annually. At Alan's request, Trevor described some of the background to the new council members.

2011 ACTIVITIES REPORT . This was agreed to have been a useful exercise, although involving considerable clerical work. The effort could become more routine as the years went by.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS. It was agreed not to produce a list of members names for circulation. Otherwise the wording of the renewal letter was approved. ACTION Trevor

MAP. Andrew agreed to make large copies for FMPC members to work on, showing the position of seats, dog bins, possibly bird boxes and the location of flowers.

ACTION Andrew

TREASURERS REPORT (Andy) £ 1869.97 in the kitty. Conrad had not yet handed everything over. The new signatories would be Andy, Deb, Kevin Shaw and Kevin Gibbons. Trevor mentioned that some societies deposited a small amount in Premium Bonds; the money could be recovered after reasonable notice. Bank deposit interest rates were low. There was discussion on what the money in the kitty should be spent on but no definite agreement.

ACTION All members

CORRESPONDENCE (Alan) KBIDB regarding branching of trees along Kingston Brook. They would start at Costock. Neil said that they had left branches at the side of the Brook in the past and these had been thrown into it. Suggested that Neil coordinate with them. Hopefully they would inform Lesley of dates, and she could inform Alan. ACTION Alan/Neil

RECORDERS (OFFICIAL) (Trevor) Kevin had been suggested as recorder of *Lepidoptera* , but further exploration revealed that it involved major commitment and it was not pursued. He would of course carry out informal recording for FMP.

RISK ASSESSMENT COURSE (Alan) For early February. Nobody volunteered. Trevor would be out of the country. Agreed offer to all FMPC Members  
ACTION Trevor

#### OTHER REPORTS

FUNDING APPLICATIONS (Alan) John asked if Paul could be approached for £120 for specified flower seed.  
ACTION Alan

#### ACTIVITIES

October – No regrets on cutting part of the covered path at the S edge of Oak Meadow. Remaining stumps to be removed on 14/1/12. Trevor asked if covered paths required special consideration. General answer “No”.

November- clearing vicinity of Little Meadow/Lagoon Field hedge .

December - laying part of above hedge

January - hedge laying Conrad

February - coppicing Kevin Gibbons

March - tidy up Lagoon Field Andy

Andrew reported that approximately 40 trees in Lagoon Field had been ringed by vandals.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SPECIAL OBJECTIVES 2012. Trevor again suggested involving schools, including young children. It was important to consider the next generations of FMP members. Alan said this had been attempted previously with negative results. Trevor felt that we should persist. John thought that schools were too busy doing work related to league tables.  
ACTION?

Alan suggested that we should go for a Green Flag award. This cost £25 down plus £175 for two judges. Applications by 31st January 2012. He would unfortunately be busy until then. Trevor asked if £175 would have to be paid every successive year and Alan was of the opinion that it would have to be. See [www.keepbritaintidy.com](http://www.keepbritaintidy.com)  
ACTION?

Date of next meeting: 14th March 2012

Trevor 16/1/12