

## Minutes of the Friends of Meadow Park Committee Meeting 5 October 2011

Apologies for absence: Andy, Marie, Paul, Peter, Richard.

Present: Alan, Mollie, Conrad, Deb, Andrew, Neil, Kevin, John, Trevor (minutes). Kevin Gibbons was present as an observer. Tony Perry as a guest.

Tony Perry described two database options for MP web pages. The American Zoho Creator was attractive, with the downside that above a thousand entries had to be paid for at \$15 per month by credit card. Trevor feared that it was a commercial trap. Open Office v3.3.0 was free. John asked if it was intended to replace our present written records. Conrad said that some people hesitated about reporting a possible new species because they did not know its identity. Trevor suggested a MP Map reference for sightings. It was agreed that Open Office v3.3.0 be explored further with a view to adoption. Mr Perry then left the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of 20 July 2011 had been previously circulated and were ratified.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND ACTION POINTS

Arboretum (Conrad) Watering had been completed comprehensively. Name ties were not yet available. Two lots of stakes had been vandalised and also the sessile oak tree. Alex had stated that trees could be replaced free of charge. John suggested replacing the juniper and sessile oak. Mollie would supply a two year old yew. Conrad suggested a short juniper, not over three feet. Trevor suggested a post-mortem on the roots of trees dug up.

ACTION ALAN

Commemorative plaques. Alan had written to the Amenities Committee on the subject and a reply was awaited.

Trim Track (Kevin, Alan). No news. ELPC had not been able to offer £5000 to match Lafage's £50,000.

Dog fouling Conrad had submitted an insert to EL Newsletter which had been rejected. Andrew suggested the East Leake Times. He would submit an insert.

ACTION ANDREW

Flower, bird, tree walks. (Trevor) Dennis and Max had agreed to speak in the spring, and Ann in June. He suggested replying asking them to choose their dates, avoiding bank holidays and school holidays.

ACTION MOLLIE, TREVOR

Hay - number of bales harvested etc. Richard was not present. John asked if there would be an October cut. Andrew asked if one had been paid for. Kevin said that Richard was paid per cut.

CARRIED FORWARD (RICHARD)

Notice boards, picnic benches. (Alan). Seats were promised for week commencing 17 October. The contractor, Horizon Landscapes, requested an FMP rep on-site. Alan and Deb volunteered. Alex had previously mentioned proximity to hemlock and contacting the County ecologist re policy. Conrad said that there was not a problem. There was considerable discussion on Notice Boards. It was agreed that Richard replace the one he damaged near Bateman Road entrance. Alex had promised

to pay for a large black notice board, and her offer should be taken up. It was agreed to keep the traditional map from 2000. Andrew might also produce modern maps, which could be updated, for the notice boards.

Child membership (Mollie/Conrad) Conrad said that children were not covered by insurance for personal accidents.

The constitution would have to be altered to allow child membership . Mollie and Conrad would work out the wording of their proposal to be printed in the notice of the AGM .

ACTION: MOLLIE, CONRAD.

John said that two people had approached him regarding membership, but had not been able to obtain an application form from the Parish Office. Trevor said that he had received a request for membership forms from the Parish Office and had responded immediately. Conrad suggested that all Committee Members have application forms. A PDF could be put on the Meadow Park website.

ACTION TREVOR, MOLLIE

Field margins, scrub. ( Conrad, Neil) Richard was prepared to go ahead in late October. There was little margin on the E side of fields. Suggested a year one S, year two W, year three N rota. Areas of Hall Field and Lagoon Field also needed attention. It was felt that once Richard had completed the major immediate work, Steve might be able to carry on in subsequent years. Deb stated that the N margin of Hall, Play and Lagoon Fields were derelict. Conrad said that the area could not be attended to this year. Trevor wondered whether it was therefore a problem for ELPC. A fire hazard had been mentioned.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Trevor)

Management Plan Paul had altered " hedge management" to " hedge laying". Also he had abandoned his lists of species, with the recommendation that FMP consult various named websites. John proposed that we continue with the MP procedure which has evolved. Agreed.

Completion of 2010/2011 activities return. Trevor suggested that it should be completed in time for the AGM.

ACTION ALAN

MP maps ELPC had approved Andrew's map, with the proviso that the Sheepwash Brook bridge be marked.

ACTION ANDREW

TREASURER'S REPORT. (Conrad)

£1510.49 credit. Outgoings had been reduced. Andrew suggested that we should find ways of putting this money to work.

ACTION ALL MEMBERS

Correspondence (Alan) Mollie had not been able to attend the Village Plan opening meeting. There was no current FMP representative on the Steering Group. The next meeting was on October 13. Kevin pointed out that this exercise must be run by the community, not ELPC.

ACTION ALAN

Recorders Trevor suggested that Kevin Gibbons act as the official recorder of Lepidoptera. Agreed. Kevin and Trevor would investigate further what was involved.

#### ACTION TREVOR

The “no-reply” situation ( Trevor, Alan) communications between Committee Members and within the village in general was very good. There were occasional delays of several months in replies from bodies outside. Kevin pointed out the problem of non-delegation of tasks during staff absence.

#### OTHER REPORTS

Funding Applications ( Alan) he had been 100% successful when applying for relatively small amounts.

#### ACTIVITIES

September report (Conrad) – paths cut in Hall Field, ready for the tractor.

October - clear area N of path S side of Oak Meadow Alan

November - hedging (no named supervisor)

December - hedging (no named supervisor)

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mollie reported low sales on her calendars. Kevin found a stockpile upstairs and some were sold. She and Deb would attend a card selling event in St Mary's Church on 11/11/11.

Mollie said FMP should obtain people's permission before using their photos in various publications. She circulated a consent form which Members signed.

Alan reported seeing seeing two children on motorcycles in MP. People said that there were no obvious notices forbidding the practice. The not obvious Notices referred to motor vehicles and interpretation was arbitrary. He would contact Lesley about it. Horses and golf were mentioned.

There did not appear to be fine for transgressors. ACTION ALAN

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: AGM Wednesday 23rd of November.

CARRIED FORWARD: Number of hay bales from MP summer 2011. ACTION RICHARD