

**Final Draft for 5/10/11** Friends of Meadow Park Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday the 20th of July 2011 (3 pages)

Present: Alan, Mollie, Conrad, Neil, Deb (8 pm onwards), Andrew, Andy, Peter, Trevor (minutes).

Apologies for absence: Kevin, John, Paul

Minutes of the meeting of 11th of May 2011 had been previously circulated and were ratified.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND ACTION POINTS.**

Lagoon field ( Alan): Lagoon responsibility of developer. Mollie asked if that was in perpetuity . Not known. Any trees in the lagoon to be reported to Lesley. Richard would flail a path in the autumn. Andrew asked if the lagoon was plastic lined. Trevor said that there would be detailed documents at Rushcliffe.

Docks. Trevor had been asked to look at implements for removing docks. He circulated diagrams of “ lazy dog” and Fisker’s Weeder. The basic question was whether removal of dock roots was indicated. Neil thought docks were not a problem. Conrad suggested the current system, perhaps with a review next year. It was important to remove docks before seed formation.

Arboretum Conrad reported that the yew had died. The silver birch and juniper would probably not survive. The remaining 23 trees should survive. FMP has enough money to purchase replacement trees. Trevor suggested an on-site rain meter. Alan said there was a bucket available. Name plaques for trees had still not been supplied by Alex – Alan to pursue. ACTION ALAN

Commemorative plaques ( Alan) - nothing to report. Trevor thought it an ELPC matter.

Trim track (Alan) - a bid for £50,000 had been made but there was no reply as yet.

Dog fouling Conrad would submit short piece mentioning fining to the Parish Newsletter

ACTION CONRAD

Flower, bird, tree walks. Mollie had circulated her report. Peter thought that Committee Members should make every effort to attend these events, to support the speakers and perhaps answer questions on aspects of policy. Trevor to approach speakers with regard to a repeat next year, perhaps in different months. ACTION TREVOR

Winter jobs to be decided as they arise.

Scrub review. Construct three-year rota for mowing field margins and along the northern boundary fence. ACTION CONRAD AND NEIL

Notice boards: Deb reported that the replacement for the Bateman Road entrance notice board and the picnic benches had still not arrived. Alan said that the money had been carried over from last year and apparently there was no rush. A lot of people had been noted reading the new notice board near the Manor Farm Meadow entrance.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Management Plan (Trevor) There were three points outstanding:

1. Neil had questioned if it was still beneficial to remove 5 metres of trees/shrubs from the south side of Kingston Brook every year, and if previous effort had yielded the desired effects. Some aquatic species prefer shaded conditions, although Paul believed that it was generally better to allow more light to reach the water. More information was required for a conclusion. ACTION PAUL

2. Andrew produced his beautiful MP map to applause. A variety of small changes were suggested and he undertook to incorporate these in the next version. Trevor suggested FMP copyrighting.

ACTION ANDREW

3. Paul had added a long list of flowers to the draft Management Plan. Some were not even claimed to be species found in Nottinghamshire or in grassland. In any case, MP flora more closely resemble North Leicestershire than North Nottinghamshire. Notts C C Biodiversity Officer had agreed to comment on the list. It was agreed the Trevor take up the offer. ACTION TREVOR

Membership list. Conrad queried the necessity of supplying the alphabetical list to Members. Trevor thought it might result in a more cohesive organisation. Peter thought that it would be in order. Alan was worried about including telephone numbers. Trevor thought the list of names would be sufficient. Conrad suggested that Members renewing next year should be asked if the details could be divulged. This was agreed.

Communications. Paul and Richard were not FMP members. Marie and Richard were not on e-mail. Their correspondence was usually copied to the Parish Clerk, to be forwarded. This had not always been done. It was agreed that messages should generally be circulated to all Committee Members – distribution would be at recipient level. Alan suggested that correspondence be accurately headed, so that recipients could decide on whether to open or not.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

Conrad reported £1489.92 credit.

Insurance He would write a local generic risk assessment. Alan suggested that supervisors check before their month's activity. Also include relevant advice in Mollie's activity reminders. Trevor suggested that the risk assessment could be displayed on notice boards. Could there be trouble if some risk was not included? ACTION CONRAD, MOLLIE

## CORRESPONDENCE

Alan reported confusing correspondence with KBIDB concerning unspecified developments and very delayed response to letters. He would pursue. ACTION ALAN

Alan - two young people had been reported riding motorcycles under the railway bridge between 9.15 - 9:45 PM. Reported to the police who will undertake special surveillance.

Official recorders. Notts C C Biodiversity Officer had asked if any specialist recorders were available. A high degree of specialist knowledge might be required. Trevor was asked to investigate further.

Rushcliffe Borough Council Community Award 2011 – no nominations.

ACTIVITIES

May – Trimming along paths and recovery of seats from Brook.

June - removal of hemlock and docks.

July- docks, ragwort, hogweed removed. Ragwort with cinnabar caterpillars had been spared. Green hay from Ulverscroft had been applied by a small group in late July – five large bags over a large area.

September - prepare route into Hall Field for Richard's machine in October. Conrad

October – clear area on south side of Oak Meadow. Alan

November (Hedging).

December (Hedging).

Carnival (Deb) £136 taken, £20 less than last year. Lots of stalls this year and the Economy is in trouble. Clashed with Armed Forces Day in West Bridgford. Deb thought that novelty was needed next year. Mollie said that there are about 70 calendars still to be sold. Sell at East Leake Show, in the afternoon? Display in Parish Council Room? Mention in ELPC Newsletter? Put one in the notice board, if it is waterproof? ACTION MOLLIE

Child membership. Conrad suggested that children could attend under the supervision of their parents. Trevor asked if under 18s are covered by insurance. Conrad to discuss with Lesley. Unaccompanied children could not be accepted because of CRB, in any case. Mollie said that there were two separate issues to consider, (a) membership and (b) participation in work sessions. She suggested that family membership should be available –it would encourage the interest of the next generation of park users. If agreed, the constitution of 14th November 2001 could be amended at our AGM in November. ACTION CONRAD, MOLLIE

Alan proposed that a notice be placed in the new large notice board describing what Park maintenance was about. What went on during Saturday morning activities would also be described. Members unable to assist with physical work could still help with their annual membership fee and donations, which would be used to purchase wildflower seeds, bulbs, equipment and so forth.

Debbie reported that the tiles at the base of the sculpture were showing signs of wear. Alan thought that more sealant would be enough. Conrad said that some had been scraped by machines. Neil wondered if it was possible to replace them. Presumably photographs of the originals were available. Trevor wondered if surface casts of the remainder should be taken and retained. In the event of future damage new tiles could be cast. ACTION ?

Date of next meeting: 5 October 2011