

## MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

9<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### **1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mel, Trevor, Ian.

Present: Andy, Eric, Ann, Kevin, Kev, Brenda, Alan, John, Sue, Neil, Andrew.

### **2) MINUTES OF THE FMPC MEETING OF SEPT 2018 WERE RATIFIED.**

### **3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PLUS DEVELOPMENTS:**

Arboretum: (Andy) - The Alder and Juniper have both died and have now been removed, with replacements being ordered which will be planted when ready. We have three trees standing by as additions/replacements – Beech [which has been provided as a family memory] Silver Birch, and Field Maple. The Larch, upon inspection is showing 'green' behind the bark and hopefully will show signs of life in the spring.

Forest School update: (Ann / Andy) –

No further damage to the trees has been noted. Most of the shrubs are surviving but need a little TLC. The tree stumps [rounds] as mentioned at the AGM have been fitted. One dead tree has been removed to prevent any accidents. Ann is to do 2 bird watching sessions with the Forest School at the end of January and start of Feb.

Tree planting and benches: (Ann) – A hole has been dug for the Beech, and a further hole will be made for the cherry. There have been no recent requests for bench plaques.

Publicity / Competitions / Website / Facebook update: (Brenda) – The latest newsletter has been sent out. The Banner is being progressed, and we may use a contact that Sue knows who did one for butterfly conservation.

**NEXT STEPS – Brenda to e-mail Sue with the banner size details.**

Bee World Plan 2019: (Kev) – Plan is to dig this in February (work party) and sow in March.

**NEXT STEPS – Andy to purchase seed for the bee world.**

Concrete holes in Gibson's field: (Kev) – These were identified as holes made for perching stools some time ago.

**NEXT STEPS – Holes to be filled in at one of the next working parties.**

Meet Your Village event: (Ann) – This event is on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> of April, Details have been passed to Lesley Way.

**NEXT STEPS – Kevin to decide at our next meeting what we plan to do this year.**

RNCSIG (Rushcliffe Strategy Group) e-mails: (Ann) – These e-mails come from Gordon Dyne, and are invitations to various events. These can be useful with regards to what initiatives other groups are doing locally.

**NEXT STEPS – Ann to redirect these e-mails to Kev for vetting going forwards.**

Constitution : (Andy) – The back page needs to be signed.

**NEXT STEPS – Ann and Kev to sign and then signed copy to go on the website in the form of a PDF.**

Latest TVIDB activity: (Ann) – The general consensus is that the work done is good. Ann was pleased to see that the 2 Kingfisher perches are still there. Where the banks have been dredged, some litter and small stones have been exposed.

**NEXT STEPS – Litter to be picked at the next working party, and small stones to be thrown back into the brook.**

Damage to Kingfisher Bridge seat: (Ann) – Damage was possibly done by the contractors. Damage appears to be not repairable

**NEXT STEPS – There was a plaque on the seat that needs to be rescued. Kevin to sort this out and to also investigate if the seat can be replaced (via the Parish Council), and be located near to the old position (but away from the dog bin).**

Willow bed extension: (John) – This has been delayed due to transport issues. John hopes to get a vehicle for the work cheaply by getting this “on spec”, so would require the Bateman Road gate key at short notice. John also asked for the willow cutting to be included on the next work party

**NEXT STEPS – Kevin to speak to the Parish Council about John being able to obtain the key at short notice**

**– John to take the cut willow away and keep this for rebuilding the Bateman entrance willow structure.**

GCR work on embankments by bridges: (Kev) – We have been offered some tree saplings (but declined this offer as we have no clear planting area for them). We did however decide to e-mail our membership if GCR request any help working on the bridge areas.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Housing development : (Brenda) – Brenda mentioned the meeting at the church with regards to the proposed housing development on West Leake road. Brenda suggested that it would be worthwhile for us to complain, and asked if she could send out a link to do this, we all agreed this was ok.

Key to back gate of the Village Hall : (Andy) – Andy asked for this key and Kevin agreed to get it for him.

Review of Kingston Brook work : (Andrew) – Andrew asked if Ian would have time to review / comment on the work done. I agreed to put this on the next meeting agenda. Neil was also concerned that some overhanging trees may still be an issue.

**NEXT STEPS – We need Tom Petit to check the trees overhanging in the park (Andy to action).**

### **4) FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK** **TREASURERS REPORT – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 9/1/19**

The accounts for the year 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 have been ratified by Neil Lambert. My thanks to Neil Lambert for taking on the task of examining the accounts and also again for the membership of FMP, and the wider village community for being generous with their subscriptions and donations.

The balance in the account at the 1 <sup>st</sup> of November 2018 was	£2085.82
This is split between: General Funds	£1573.79
and Arboretum Sponsorship	£512.03

As mentioned at the AGM, very generous donations of £200 had been received for the sponsorship of the Arboretum. There has since been a further donation of £50.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT  
CREDIT

Initial Balance in Bank	£2085.82
Membership Subscriptions [to date]	£171
Donations [Including collection boxes]	£78
Arboretum Sponsorship	£250
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£2584.82</u>

DEBIT

Stakes for Hedge Laying	£40
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£40</u>

Balance as at 9/1/19 :	Total	£2544.82
	General Funds	£1782.79
	Arboretum Sponsorship	£762.03

Outstanding items that require payment are as follows:

Purchase of replacement/new trees for the Arboretum: £186.26

ELPC – photocopying: £8.20

British Gypsum – donation from the Good Causes Committee 2018 and 2019. After discussions with BG over the last 5 weeks, this situation is nearing completion and requires paperwork from FMP to release the funds

Andy Denker [Treasurer] FMP 9/1/19

**NEXT STEPS – We need to think how we can use our funds going forwards, benches were suggested, but we can probably get these funded, also the plinths could be refurbished, but Alan thinks we can tidy these up with Brasso. All to come to the next meeting with ideas.**

**NEXT STEPS – Bridges over the brook need some refurbishing. Andrew to mention this to Neil Lambert.**

**NEXT STEPS – Alan to look at whether the small green plinths can be re-done.**

**5) FUNDING APPLICATIONS - PATHS:** (Alan) – 10 years ago we received £23k from the local improvement scheme (building better communities). Notts County Council handled it all and bought trees and boards etc for the park. It was also hoped that the limestone grit paths would be maintained every few years. It has been highlighted to the Council that this needs to be done. The current local improvement scheme states that these funds can't be used for maintenance, but it has been stressed that accessibility is a priority, and hence there is a possibility that we could get funds allocated on this basis, and Alan has submitted a quote that he has received from Horizon for doing this work. We will get a second quote, and even if the local improvement scheme will not fund the total, it may fund part. Alan will continue to get more information with regards to the detail and logistics for material removal etc. At the end of January the Parish Council should approve their budget (which includes matching funds for the path work). If this is approved, the matching offer should remain valid for 2 years.

**6) ACTIVITIES UPDATE :** (Andy)

The Activity days in December covered:

Scheduled:

Hedge laying in copse No2 adj to the Arboretum – the 2<sup>nd</sup> section of the triangle was completed. The re-growth on copse No1 was cut back. Litter picking.

Maps of the park to assist volunteers with identifying the areas of the park have been produced and are available from the depot.

Total hours worked to date - 40

Unscheduled Activity days in December/January covered:

Cutting down of dead tree in Forest School area, pruning of damaged tree in Oak Meadow copse. Prepare hole for new tree, remove two dead trees and prepare holes for replacements – Arboretum.

Tidying Arboretum copse No1 and preparation for hedge laying in copse No2

Total hours worked to date – 13      AED 9/1/19

## **7) NEXT ACTIVITY DAYS**

Activity days are on the second Saturday of each month (weather permitting)

## **8) NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. 7.30pm, Parish Offices.