

MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

5th July 2017

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Ann, Eric.

Present: Kev, Andy, Alan, Mel, Neil, Brenda, Andrew, Ian, John, Trevor, Marie.

2) Minutes of the FMPC Meeting of May 2017 were ratified.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PLUS DEVELOPMENTS:

Arboretum Update (Andy) - The June work party replaced several posts, either for tree support or for the fitting of labels. The heat wave in mid-June has affected the two new trees – the Alder has smaller leaves than normal but looks in good health, the Downy Birch looks a bit sorry for itself, a lot of leaves being scorched, both trees were watered twice and hopefully continue. On a sour note there are another 4 labels missing – ripped or cut off.

NEXT STEPS – Andrew to re-do the 4 labels (including QR codes).

Forest School Update: (Andy) - Liaised with the teacher on 4/7 who confirmed everything was OK and that the children would be building dens on the last two weeks of term – suggested that we will trim some more brash on Sat for them. On their return in Sept. the School will revert back to Monday – possibly 11/9.

NEXT STEPS – Sticks to be gathered for dens at next work party (Saturday 8th July).

Willow Bed Extension: (Mel) – The Parish Council has agreed in principle for the tractor to be used when the ground is firm. It was suggested that immediately after the hay is cut would be the ideal time for this.

NEXT STEPS – Andy to inform John when the hay is cut and then liaise with Steve with regards to the tractor, and also inform the Parish Office.

- Andy to measure the distance from the top of the ball on the tractor hitch point to the ground and then inform John.

Willow Bed – Willow Crafts: (Mel) – It was suggested that we could use any cut willow for a willow making activity either during the year or at the Carnival, or to make willow items such as garden obelisks or hurdles etc to sell for funds. The time to cut the willow is Oct/Nov.

NEXT STEPS – Schedule cutting of willow for a work party in the Autumn (Andy).

- Discuss further the ideas above for utilising the willow at our next meeting (All).

Publicity and Carnival update: (Brenda) – The village website has been revamped and is looking good. It includes the Management Plan and it would be good to add the 2002 Kingston Brook report. The “Poolution” notice has now been laminated and these are to be put in the park. The Carnival was successful in engaging the community (particularly Ian’s brook water display) and we gained 14 new members. It was discussed whether we should have 2 stalls in the Carnival next year, or maybe a Gazebo.

NEXT STEPS – Trevor to look for early Kingston Brook reports and send to Ian to be then loaded onto the Meadow Park section of the Village website.

- Mel, Ian and Kev to continue adding Facebook pics
- Kev to take photos of the 8th of July working party and put on Facebook.
- Brenda to take out Butterfly walk info from plinths and to add new info.
- Brenda to send copy of Poolution notice to the Committee members.
- Brenda to put Poolution laminated notices at the entrances to Meadow Park and also near the Forest School log circle, next to the newly layed hedge, and at the entrance to Hall field.

Hedgerow / Shrubs Update: (Andy) Various work has been carried out on the Bateman planting over the last two months either watering or more frequently clearing the area around the shrubs. On inspection on 2/7 there are 2-3 shrubs struggling in Bateman and 2 dead in Lagoon, the remainder seem to be coping reasonably well.

Severn Trent Sewerage Update: (Alan) – The tour was informative, and we may arrange for another tour next year. However, Alan did ask for some further information which has not been forthcoming. In essence however the sewerage facilities will not be upgraded until the housing developments are completed in the village. Trevor mentioned that sewage overflow from storm tanks is sporadic and occurs when there is usually ample water to wash it downstream. Silting is more continuous and cumulative. It presents a greater danger to wildlife and spoils the appearance of Kingston Brook. Ian said that the problem is attributed to man-made flattening of the stream bed, reduced inflow from Sheepwash Brook (as a result of quarrying) and multiple legal abstractions upstream. FMPC should take every opportunity to draw attention to the serious manufactured problem.

NEXT STEPS – Alan to follow up with further questions to Severn Trent and to arrange further meetings in the future.

– Ian to continue talking to the River Trust with regards to how to restore parts of the brook.

Butterfly Walk: (Kev)

NEXT STEPS – Kev to take pictures on Butterfly Walk and post on Facebook.

Rushcliffe Work Parties List (Kev)

NEXT STEPS – Meadow park work parties to be supplied to Gordon Dyne for inclusion on the list (Kev).

Bee Worlds : (Kev)- No Bee World was planted this year, so it would be good to ensure we schedule one in for early next year on one of the work parties.

NEXT STEPS – Ensure this gets scheduled in for the start of next year (Kev).

Willow Structure : (Kev)- The old willow structure although broken has a lot of growing willow in it. This could be re-worked into a new structure.

NEXT STEPS – Carry this forward as an agenda item (Kev).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Contribution to our funds : (Mel) – The ladies at East Leake carnival; who ran the Dog show, very kindly have contributed the money they raised to the FOMP via Mel.

NEXT STEPS – Andy to send a “thank you” to Sarah worthy and Caroline Mulligan.

Replacement benches (Andy / Alan) – 3 of our benches require replacing, and we have received quotes from Broxap.

NEXT STEPS – Alan to look at applying to the Airport for potential assistance in funding these benches.

Eroding footpath – It was pointed out that the path on the main bridge into Meadow Park was eroding.

NEXT STEPS – Marie to take this issue back to the Parish Council.

Many thanks yet again for the membership of FMP, and the wider village community for being generous with their subscriptions and donations over the last two months. Collection box - £49, EL Carnival 14 new members.

The balance in the account at the 1st of November 2016 was £1275.68

This is split between: General Funds £681.68
and Arboretum Sponsorship £594

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT

CREDIT

Initial Balance in Bank	£1275.68
Membership Subscriptions [total to date]	£698
Arboretum Sponsorship[Total to date]	£225
Sale of Notelets [Mel's shop & EL Carnival]	£132
Donations [This includes £104 from MR's collection for a new seat for Playfield]	£322.95
TOTAL	£2858.63

DEBIT

Payments made over the last 2 months:

EL Carnival	£30
ELPC sponsorship forms	£5
Thistlebank Graphics – Notelets	£48
Blue spray paint	£21.88
TOTAL	£1039.70

Balance as at 4/7/17 : Total	£1818.93
General Funds	£1307.93
Arboretum Sponsorship	£407
Collection for new Seat	£104

Outstanding items for payment over the next period:

New First Aid Kit - £28
4 off tool racks for FMP store room - £64.75
Expected purchase of new seat – approx £400

Andy Denker [Treasurer FMP] 4/7/17s

5) WORK PARTY

The scheduled activity days in May and June covered the Bateman rd shrubs and gate entrance, the new willow area, cutting back growth over paths and fitting new posts etc in the Arboretum.

Total hours worked to date - 174

The unscheduled activity days consisted of pruning on paths, watering trees, and attending EL Carnival

Total hours worked to date – 135.25 AED 4/7/17.

6) NEXT ACTIVITY DAYS

September 9th – TBC.

7) FUTURE MEETING

Wednesday September 6th.