

## MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

6<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Alan, Andrew.

Present: Kev, Andy, Mel, Neil, Brenda, Ian, John, Trevor, Paul.

**2) Minutes of the FMPC Meeting of July 2017 were ratified.**

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

Minutes – It was generally agreed that any issues with the previous month's minutes would be discussed, agreed and amended at the start of the next meeting. Hence any issues or amendments to these minutes will be discussed at the January 2018 meeting (and not at the upcoming AGM, which will have a separate agenda issued shortly).

**NEXT STEPS - It was agreed to try this out and see how it goes going forwards.**

Mowing of headlands (Ann) – The headlands have not been cut during the annual mowing by Richard Jenks. It was agreed that the headlands / field margins should be done on a 3 to 5 year rotation.

**NEXT STEPS – Neil, Ann and Andy to discuss what can be done and to agree a plan for this year and going forwards.**

AGM Arrangements (Ann) – AGM is scheduled for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

**NEXT STEPS – Ann to apply to the council for money for drinks, but it was agreed that we will finance this if necessary. With regards to publicising the AGM, this is to be done as per previous years.**

New Benches update (Andy) – The plaques (which are costing £85) are slightly delaying the receipt of the benches. We received valuable contributions towards these of £700 from the East Midlands Airport Community Fund (good work by Alan in obtaining this), as well as £100 from East Leake Neighbourhood watch and £104 from Mel's notelet shop sales. Both benches are due to be received around the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and will be situated in Play Field.

Arboretum Update (Andy) - The inspection of 31/8/17 highlighted the continued hot weather which has affected the two new trees – the Alder has smaller leaves than normal but looks in good health, the Downy Birch still looks sorry for itself, a lot of leaves being scorched, both trees have been watered over the period and hopefully will survive. Another 2 labels and a new post are required for the Wild Plum – damaged during the hay cut

**NEXT STEPS – Andrew to do the 2 labels for the Wild Plum.**

Forest School Update: (Andy /Ann) – Andy repaired the log circle (including the wires). Andy also had positive discussions with 2 teenagers who had built the original dens nearby and were going to rebuild one for the start of the Forest School on 11/9. Ann to do tree identification with the Forest School group.

**NEXT STEPS – Ann and Conrad to look at the area, and to decide if the den should be removed and the area tidied before the Forest School re-commence using the area.**

Willow Bed Extension: (Mel / John) – Now it has been agreed in principle for a tractor to be used,

**NEXT STEPS – John to let us know when he is ready to lead this task.**

Willow Bed – Willow Crafts: (Mel) – We discussed cutting the willow and to produce willow items to be sold next year to raise funds. Cutting could commence as soon as the leaves fall (November through to February / March), and John could keep these in his soaking tank.

**NEXT STEPS – Around November we could work on the existing willow structure to turn this into the shape of a basket – to be led by John, potentially at a working party to be arranged.**

**– A workshop day for creating willow items / gifts to be organised by John at a time to be agreed. This will also be co-ordinated with Brenda who could e-mail other local organisations such as the history and allotment societies in order to get more people involved.**

Publicity / Competitions / Website / Facebook update: (Brenda) – The Flower photographic completion ends on the 20th of September. We also discussed further actions with regards to the notelets. The Poolution initiative was also discussed, and the notices are still in the Plinths, and the poo is still being sprayed, also Pinfold Vets are applying for a bag dispenser, which is to be put in the park, somewhere near the park entrance. Next steps for these shown below:

**NEXT STEPS – Brenda to investigate the possibility of having a table put in front of the CO-OP, so people can vote for their favourite pictures in the flower competition.**

**– The plan is to produce 6 notelets in a pack for £2. These could include photos of the park and the village. These to be potentially produced / launched around February 2018. Brenda to ideally to take these to various ad-hoc events such as the Methodist groups, Women’s Institute, tea and cake afternoons etc. It was agreed that we should run off approximately 100 packs in total.**

**– Progress on Poolution to be discussed at our next meeting.**

**– All to look at Facebook page to check that this works correctly for everyone**

Hedgerow / Shrubs Update: (Andy) Various work has been carried out on the Bateman planting area, again watering or more frequently clearing the area around the shrubs. On inspection on 31/8 there are 3-4 dead in Bateman and 2 dead in Lagoon, the remainder seem to be coping reasonably well.

Severn Trent Sewerage Update: (Alan Next Steps via e-mail to Kevin)

**NEXT STEPS – Alan to try and set up a trip to the “asset” on West Leake Road for next March / April.**

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).**

Eroding Footpath: - This can be taken off the future agenda, as Marie has passed it to Jane Baines (Rights Of Way Officer), and Sue is escalating it on the Parish Council.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Adult Trim Trail : (Mel) – This subject has come up On the Amenities Committee. It was supposed to get funding from Stanford DNRC, but has now been passed back to the Parish Council. Mel asked if we felt that it could still be done in the park. The consensus of the Committee was that it was fine if it was on Play Field and not hidden away.

Damage to Oak Meadow wildflower area (Neil): - The bin men have run over this area again.

**NEXT STEPS – Neil to put a complaint in writing to Paul, and Ann to follow up with an e-mail.**

**4) FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK**  
**TREASURERS REPORT – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 4/9/17**

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. Also a major thankyou for two grants from the East Midlands Airport Community Fund and East Leake Neighbourhood Watch for £700 and £100 respectively for the two new benches. These grants will be processed after the completion of the fitting.

A further thankyou to ELPC for purchasing the new shelving for the FMP store - £134

The balance in the account at the 1<sup>st</sup> 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]   | £746            |
| Arboretum Sponsorship [Total to date]  | £325            |
| Sale of Notelets [Mel's shop & EL Carnival]  | £136            |
| Donations [This includes £104 from MR's collection for the seats for Playfield and £70 from the dog show at EL Carnival] | £483.95         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>£3171.63</b> |

DEBIT

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Payments made over the last 2 months: |                 |
| New First Aid Kit                     | £28             |
| 4 off Tool Racks for the FMP store    | £64.75          |
| Hazel Stakes for hedgelaying          | £72             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>£1204.45</b> |

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Balance as at 4/9/17 : Total | £1967.18 |
| General Funds                | £1356.18 |
| Arboretum Sponsorship        | £507     |
| Collection for new Seat      | £104     |

Outstanding items for payment over the next period:  
6 off bag hoops for refuse sack - £60.48  
10 off Litter Pickers - £109.14  
2 off canvas tool bags - £21.77  
Purchase of 2 new seats plus plaques –£856  
Andy Denker [ Treasurer, Friends of Meadow Park] – 4/9/17

**5) WORK PARTY**

The Scheduled Activity days in July covered the removal of ragwort from the majority of the park area, watering of trees and shrubs along with preparing den matl for the Forest School. Two Brownie and one butterfly walks were also completed.

*Total hours worked to date - 203*

The Unscheduled Activity days in July, August and September included work in the FMP store, watering trees, ragwort pulling and checking on the planted areas and the Forest School.

*Total hours worked to date – 157 AED 3/9/17*

**6) NEXT ACTIVITY DAY**

October 14<sup>th</sup>

**7) FUTURE MEETING**

A.G.M. Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November