

FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th March 2011.

Present: Alan, Mollie, Kevin, Andrew, Marie, Deb, Andy, Neil, Peter (8 p.m. onwards), Trevor

Apologies for absence were received from John and Conrad.

Minutes of the Meeting of 19th January had been previously circulated and were ratified..

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PLUS ACTION POINTS.

Future of Lagoon Field. (Alan) No reply to his January request to the RDC for clarification of FMP involvement .(Lagoon Field is included in area (B) in the Management Plan, so that its grass should be cut twice a year). Lesley was on the case. It would be discussed at the Amenities Committee next week.

Meeting with Kingston Brook IDBoard. (Marie) Nothing to report. Trevor had requested a field- drain map, but was informed that they did not possess one.

Arboretum. Alan stated that a large canister of water to be carried by Steve's truck had been approved. Debbie asked where a flood plain map could be found. Nobody knew.

Trim track. (Kevin)- nothing to report. Alan said that a decision on funding was not likely before the end of March. Debbie stated that the current chosen site at the north end of Play Field was very wet. Trevor mentioned the safety hazard caused by algae and moss growing on equipment and making it slippery. Alan suggested the northwest corner of Little Meadow as a suitable site but Neil disagreed. He suggested Stonebridge Field. Kevin said that the original concept involved a track, which could be around Play Field

Oaks donated by Micropropagation. These had been planted and Andy reported that shoots were developing. The Jubilee Oak had an unusual growth habit. Kevin stated that this clone of Major Oak flowered in its first year. He was against any interference with it. Neil said that these trees were adapted to the sandy acid soil of Sherwood Forest and not wet parkland. Trevor reported that the recently donated trees were not clones of Major Oak but of "ancient stag-head oaks".

Large willow dipping into Sheepwash Brook. This had been cut back, but not far enough according to Kevin. Alan suggested putting it on the list of Steve's jobs. ACTION TREVOR

Notts wildlife trust training courses. Trevor had chased this up but there were not yet any on offer.

Flower, bird and tree walks Anne Weekley, Max Watson and Dennis Fox had all agreed to participate. Trevor to ask them to choose their dates. ACTION TREVOR

Dog fouling. Marie reported that someone had been prosecuted following a visit by Rushcliffe Dog Warden. Alan thought this deserved publicity, without mentioning the miscreant's name. Lesley should have details. ACTION TREVOR

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Activities Plan. (Trevor)This had been previously circulated. It was approved with minor changes. Trevor would complete these. A copy would be submitted to ELPC. The list showed the numerous activities of FMP, and recording would indicate what had not been achieved each year as well as what had. This should be of value to the ELPC

ACTION TREVOR

Draft management plan. It was agreed that Trevor email the plan with his suggested changes to Committee Members. Peter and Kevin queried whether FMP should be doing this work. Trevor agreed that the Plan was the responsibility of RBC and E LPC. However, FMP views had been requested and we could cooperate. Neil was adamant that the map should be redrafted. Alan pointed out that the Management Plan had to be quoted in all applications for financial aid, including charities. A sound plan was of value in this context.

Distribution of minutes. Agreed to supply parish clerk with copy by email for distribution within ELPC as necessary. ACTION TREVOR

Ratified minutes could be published on Meadow Park website, as suggested by Alan. ACTION MOLLIE

FMP or FOMP? The Meeting decided on FMP.

We were established as "Executive Committee". The Meeting decided to drop the word "Executive". (Do ELPC have to agree to this?)

Renewal Reminder. Deb asked if the 2011 Members List had been finalised. Trevor said this awaited the list of members renewing/not renewing from Conrad. It was important to finalise the Members List early in the year. A cut off date for renewals would be introduced next year. There might be danger in (uninsured) non-members participating in Saturday Morning Activities.

Insurance.(Alan) Money would be saved if Members could be covered by ELPC's insurance. This might also allow properly trained people to use ELPC's power tools.

CORRESPONDENCE

Hedgehog survey. This had been mentioned in the newsletter. No takers.

RMCSIG2011 AGM This letter had been circulated to all committee members.

OTHER REPORTS

Paths progress. Kevin reported completion of the new diagonal path across Gibson's Field, and associated paths. He felt that the edge of the path could have been tidier. Deb remarked that the work had been carried out at a very wet time. Kevin was pleased with the good depth of road stone. Alan remarked that a contractor had suggested that a membrane should have been included under the path. Neil wondered if the surface could be improved on some associated paths

Funding applications (Alan) An appreciable quantity of flower/grass seed had been supplied to John. A decision on the awarding of £50,000 of lottery money for the trim track was expected in March.

February activity report. The objectives – removal of 5 m of shrub on the south bank of Kingston Brook and willow cutting/planting- had been achieved. In addition, Sheepwash Brook and Kingston Brook had been cleared of rubbish.

March Clear 1 m² areas of turf in the Arboretum for flower sowing in April. In charge John

April Cleaning day In charge Peter

May Trim vegetation encroaching on paths. In charge Alan

June Weeding docks, ragwort, hemlock In charge Andy

Debbie volunteered to do ongoing work on the shrub border. She also suggested action against brambles. Neil said that this should not be done during the bird nesting season. Some investigation and minor work might be carried out in May.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tools holdalls....should be obtained.

ACTION CONRAD.

1996 Wildlife Survey Report. Kevin said it was in the Parish Office in 2010. Suggested Lesley search Meadow Park file.

ACTION TREVOR

Mollie reported that BTCV had bluebell and wood anemone plants for sale at 29 and 38 pence each. She assured Andrew that bluebells were of the correct species. Agreed to order 50 of each

ACTION MOLLIE

2012 calendar. Mollie said that there was demand and it was agreed to proceed along the same lines as for 2010. She suggested a price increase from £4.50 to £6 would be needed because of rising paper costs..New photographs were requested. She would try to have completed calendars available at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

ACTION MOLLIE

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, May 11 2011.

CARRIED FORWARD

Tree in Sheepwash Brook (job for Steve's list May)

Trevor 16/03/11