

MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING
2nd March 2016 7.30-9.15 P.M.

Apologies for absence: Paul, Alan, Brenda, Eric, John, Alan, Marie.

Present: Ann, Neil, Andrew, Andy, Kevin, Mel, Ian, Trevor (minutes).

Minutes of the FMPC Meeting of 13th January 2016 were ratified.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PLUS DEVELOPMENTS:

Lines of communication. Ann reported that there had been a request from Paul Philips at RBC, which ELPC also support, that they receive fewer e-mails. In order to reduce the number it is suggested that all e-mails to them are sent through one person (normally her) and involve only minutes, agendas and decisions (where applicable). This was incorporated in the minutes of 13th January 2016. Neil pointed out that we occasionally needed to contact Paul Philips for guidance. He did not regularly attend Meetings. (He occasionally comments on minutes). Trevor suggested that the request be complied with as a general rule. It could be overridden if the situation justified it. Agreed.

ACTION: ALL MEMBERS

Format of minutes: Agreed that minutes be abbreviated relative to the established format.

ACTION: TREVOR

Review of the Management Plan. Trevor had circulated a draft on 24th February, with suggested alterations superimposed on the adopted October 2011 version. Neil thought that it might be better if we presented a more complete version that could be easier for some to follow. He also made the point that ideas for the first management plan were proposed and developed by the original committee members, around the years 2000-2003, and after public consultation (See Appendix 1). Trevor said that we were complying with requests from ELPC and RBC, and meeting their date-line. The draft included observations and questions. It was agreed to submit the draft, with post 24/2/06 additions. (It is the RBC Management Plan we are reviewing. There is a place for a simpler FMP Plan).

ACTION: TREVOR

Draft grass cutting contract. Neil and Kevin had provided their Cutting Regime as Appendix 1 of the draft Management Plan. It would be simplest if this could also be submitted separately to ELPC as FMPC'S contribution to the Grass cutting contract, thought to be due to be drawn up in May.

ACTION: TREVOR

List of tasks. ELPC had requested that FMPC supply them, by the end of March, with a list of tasks which they would like ELPC to carry out during the course of the year.

Neil - "Other than the annual flail-cutting of parts of Hall Field to be done later this month (as in previous years, Neil would liaise with Steve from ELPC about this), no one could think of anything else that needed doing in addition to the normal grass/path cutting schedule, so there wasn't currently any list. Any issues that might arise over the next few months could be dealt with if and when they occurred". Neil said that no list was needed because he routinely liaised with Steve. (Ann has since confirmed that Lesley is happy with this arrangement).

NO ACTION

Liaison with East Leake Academy. Ann would be meeting the Biodiversity teacher on Thursday 3rd March. Mel circulated a letter which she had sent to the Principal, copied to Heads of Departments.

ACTION: ANN

Liaison with junior schools Ann reported that Lantern Lane Forest School was active. She was also liaising with a teacher at Brookside school.

Trees encroaching on Manor Farm Meadow. Ann reported that Rushcliffe BC had despatched a man very promptly: he had removed branches from trees in number 21 MFM garden. Felling trees was beyond his remit. It is beyond FMPC remit. NO ACTION

Arboretum had been mowed, fairly superficially. Andy said that two replacement trees planted appeared OK. The new bench had been delivered and needed cementing in. Andy reported missing tree labels, apparently vandalised. Andrew would supply replacements. ACTION: ANDY, ANDREW

Willow bed extension. John had recently suffered an eye injury. Condolences were expressed. It was agreed that it was too late to proceed with planting willows this year.

Breeding bird survey Ian said that birds were not breeding at this time of year. Ann reported that 3 bat and 5 bird boxes had been put up last month.

Facebook site. Mel was now running this. It had received 220 likes. Trevor wondered if EL Academy children could become involved.

Meeting with Parish Clerk. Partly covered in Lines of Communication. Mel said that FMPC minutes were in portfolios received by Parish councillors, but did not routinely appear on the Agenda.

Archaeological Day Date still not fixed ACTION: ALAN

Officer of the Day Saturday Activities. Alan's suggestion, but he could not attend. Trevor thought a foreman was needed if there were major turnouts. Safety equipment e.g. goggles should certainly be offered. Andrew pointed out that insurance cover specified use of safety apparel. ACTION: ALAN

Monthly Amenities Committee Meetings: Ann and Mel would attend. ACTION: ANN, MEL

SECRETARY'S REPORT: (TREVOR)

Mollie ceased to receive FMPC correspondence at the end of February, at her request. Ian wondered if some permanent token should be made in Meadow Park. A tree was suggested, but more thought is needed. ACTION: ALL MEMBERS

Phillip had resigned from the FMPC after one meeting. He had found the material specialised and did not feel that he could contribute. ACTION: TREVOR

A reminder letter to members who had not renewed their subscription would be circulated soon. Payments accepted at Mel's shop in addition to Parish Office. ACTION: TREVOR

TREASURERS REPORT (ANDY) – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 2/3/16

The balance in the account at the 1st of November 2015 was £1619.23
This is split between: General Funds £934.23
and Arboretum Sponsorship £685

Reminders for membership subscriptions went out in December again this time to try and get the January anniversary date fixed.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT

CREDIT	
Initial Balance in Bank	£1619.23
Membership Subscriptions [69 ren/new to date]	£405
Arboretum Sponsorship	£0.00
Other items	£8.00
Membership Donation [This includes a wonderful individual donation of £500]	£522
TOTAL	£2554.23
DEBIT	
Purchase of 3 off Storage boxes	£25
Various printing costs ELPC	£20.20
TOTAL	£617.03
Balance as at 2/3/16 : Total	£1937.20
General Funds	£1383.20
Arboretum Sponsorship	£554

There will be one outstanding debit within the next few weeks; this will be for the new seat for the Arboretum which is provisionally being delivered week beginning February 29th. The payment of £644 [£536 for the seat and £108 for delivery] will be paid to ELPC.

ACTIVITIES

February 13th Scrub clearance Electric Avenue etc.

March 12th Dig Bee world. Retain turf for hedgehogs' hibernation. Scrubcutting. Kevin in charge

April 9th Seeding. Clear brooks and major litter picking. Andy in charge.

Summer walks

CARRY FORWARD

ANY OTHR BUSINESS

Mel would be happy to display FMPC notices in her shop. Suggest approach Brenda who may have posters.

ACTION: MEL

Kevin described successful use of cameras to capture wild life shots in Aston on Trent. Included infra-red. Would look into it for Meadow Park.

ACTION: KEVIN

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 4th May

Appendix 1

HISTORY OF RBC MEADOW PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN TO 6-3-16.

COMPILED FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS FILE, WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM NEIL LAND ANDREW.

The first relevant document is date stamped 28/3/2001. Public consultation exercise held 6/11/2000. 60 attended. Then a six-week consultation period. 149 comments. 30 on land use/maintenance. 90% for retaining “natural characteristics” with enhancement of nature conservation where possible.

7/3/2002. Report of the Management Plan Working Group (Clive Bilson, Dennis Fox, Neil Hunter)
. Discussed at FMPC.

21/2/2003 Discussed.

21//5/ 2003 Notes from Management Plan Committee. Signed by Brian Dale. Neil and Paul present.

24/8/2004 Paul Phillips sent a copy of the draft RBC version of the plan to John Adcock – copy circulated by email (copy not on file, but a Andrew Sandford has a copy).

2/9/2004. Paul Philips presents draft to some FMP members. Full discussion. “RBC should submit their plan to ELPC for their feelings on the plan”. This suggests that it was regarded as the RBC Plan. Pauls plan discussed on occasion in subsequent meetings. A part finished copy was sent by Paul to John Adcock on 30/9/2004 (copy not on file, but Andrew Sandford has a copy)

14/10/2004 Discussed. “Prescription” appears in the wording similar to the 2010 draft.

8/12/2004 Discussed. Agreed that FMP would notify RBC of the acceptance of the plan subject to some minor changes.

7/4/2005. Discussed . No final plan received

9/6/2005. Discussed. No final plan received

18/8/2005 Revised plan received and “Plan not acceptable” recorded. Neil has a bound copy of one version of the Plan of this era (not on file) and states that the comment related mainly to format, not content. His copy is marked “Adopted by FoMP and ELPC” .

15/6/2006. AOB “Management Plan - Conrad asked Paul what is happening to this”.

26/10/2006 Plan discussed and it was stated the plan was not formally adopted by RBC due to lack of funds!

1/3/2007 Kevin Shaw met with Brian Knowles, RBC, who said **RBC would provide ELPC with funds to run Meadow Park as per the Management Plan.**

5/4/2007 In the FMP minutes it is stated “The PC have approved the plan after meeting & discussion with 2 Friends representatives. The PC have documented things to be done before the possible transfer with further discussion with RBC including items such as a plan to plant an Arboretum & the control of the mowing contract with the farmer.”

17/4/2008.” A revised Management Plan received for Parish Council’s attention”. Discussion in FMPC must have occurred, but it is not recorded in minutes.

“Most of the changes in the management Plan are responsibility ones from RBC to PC”

21/8/2008 "A draft document has been approved by the PC & been sent to the solicitor. With a few amendments. One being that RBC will hand over the organising of the farmer's cuts to the PC & another that RBC has included the suggestion of the planting of an arboretum." (Was this the management plan or management agreement or a combination of the two)?

AGM 2008. Secretary "... no big projects planned until the transfer of management is complete with a clear Management Plan".

19/5/2010 "Conrad said only a draft Management Plan available".

28/07/2010 "the parish clerk has advised that even though the plan says 'draft' it is satisfactory.

Paul Phillips advised that it is a draft because it has not been approved by either ELPC or RBC. The word draft can be taken off but it can be changed at any time. It was suggested we ask for the word draft to be deleted."

FMPC needed a finalised plan to support funding applications. Trevor Jones obtained the draft Plan - a meticulous comprehensive 11 page document dated 16/04/2008 - from Kevin Shaw and commenced extensive work on it over 2010/11.

The finalised Plan was agreed with RBC and ELPC on 31st October 2011, to be revised every five years.

(Trevor spent several hours on this, so it is best recorded).

INTERESTING Hedge laying plan with Map produced by Conrad Oatey 16/6/08, but not divided into annual targets. Improved 21/8/2008.

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