

MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

7th May 2018

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Paul, Trevor, Alan.

Present: Kev, Andy, Ann, Mel, Neil, Brenda, Ian, Eric, Gwen, Andrew, John.

2) MINUTES OF THE FMPC MEETING OF MARCH 2018 WERE RATIFIED.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES PLUS DEVELOPMENTS:

Meet the village and subscription changes: (Ann) – This was a very successful event, raising £120 (£107 in new memberships, and £13 in donations). We also discussed on going membership costs, and agreed to leave this at a minimum donation of £3 per individual but change it to £5 per family

NEXT STEPS – Andy to alter the membership form and to organise getting new forms printed (with Brenda and Kev to help if required) before the Carnival.

DataProtection Regulations: (Andy) – New laws now apply with regards to this, although we are not a charity, we do hold a database of members and we need to ask all members how they would like to be contacted in the future. We also need to pass our updated privacy policy to Paul Phillips and the Parish Council

NEXT STEPS – Andy to organise this and arrange for the privacy form to be posted to members.

Mowing of headlands: (Andrew)

NEXT STEPS – Andrew to produce a digital copy of this (Andrew confirmed that this would be done shortly)

Constitution update: (Andy) – Gwen took us all through the constitution changes. Trevor's comments and other points were taken on board. Ann passed around form G5 for all the Committee members to sign (stating that we will act in the interests of the association). Neil Lambert (Parish clerk) has given Brenda 2 box files to keep this information and other information in (minutes etc).

NEXT STEPS – Gwen to feed the final document through to the Parish Council, and Rushcliffe, and once it is all agreed we will need to ensure it goes to the AGM for everyone to vote on.

Hall Field – Dog issues: (Kev)

NEXT STEPS – Awareness of this issue to be raised at the carnival and we need to consider how we tackle the issue going forwards, particularly with dog walkers.(Brenda / Kev / Ann)

– Mel to investigate the cost of having t shirts / sweat shirts produced with the Meadow park logo on (as per Parish council uniform for Steve and Andy).

Dog Warden: (Ann) – We have a new dog warden

NEXT STEPS – Ann to update us on this at the next meeting.

Arboretum: (Andy) – As per the last meeting, the posts and labels will not be renewed. Andrew has however produced the new labels required so we will use them up as required.

NEXT STEPS – Andy to do a full inspection will be carried out over the next few weeks, hopefully when there is less water about and all the trees have come into life. If the Alder is dead we plan to replace this in October

Forest School Update: (Ann / Andy) – All shrubs have now been planted and the wildflower seeds sown. We will now await what hopefully will be an excellent display of colour.

There has recently been a fire in the centre of the log circle which was removed by the teacher and various damage to surrounding trees which was repaired. Forest School have asked for willow to make "willow wands", it was agreed that this was fine by us. We also received a courtesy letter from the Community Involvement Officer (via the Parish Clerk), asking to do a play session in Meadow Park on the 21st of August, which the Parish Clerk has agreed to, and we also confirmed this was ok.

NEXT STEPS – We discussed if we could put an official notice by the log circle to say that the area is being monitored? Ann to speak to the Parish Office about this.

Willow Bed Extension: John confirmed that it is too late to do the extension this year, but the ploughing tractor has been made and is ready to use in the Autumn.

NEXT STEPS – John to order his new sets of willow in October.

Willow Bed – Willow Crafts: (Mel / John) –

The carnival date is the 23rd of June, and Andy has organised extra space for us to put up a Gazebo for us to demonstrate and organise some willow crafts. John will soak the dried out brown willow for use in basket making, and we could also use some for making obelisks or wig wags for growing sweet peas up etc. We also discussed the old willow structure to see if this could be developed further

NEXT STEPS – Andy to book a bigger stall area to enable us to put up a Gazebo. (Done)

– John to sort through willow at next working party and take it home for soaking (Done).

– Andrew or John to supply the Gazebo (this will need to be set up at 9.30 a.m on the day of the carnival).

– Brenda to e-mail members to see if anyone would like to help on Carnival day.

– John to look at how we develop the old willow structure (dome) that was damaged, to see if this can be developed into a new shape (such as a basket).

Tree planting: (Ann) – We are waiting to hear about the bench and 2 trees, we will wait to see if people want to progress them. We may also be receiving a bench via the village show (which may include a plaque as long as this is non memorial).

NEXT STEPS – Andy has another bench to restore which will then be installed in Play Field (Andy organising).

– The current brass plaques are eroding. Andrew to look into obtaining us some replacement stainless steel ones.

Publicity / Competitions / Website / Facebook update: (Brenda) – Brenda is happy with the new East Leake website as it is more functional, and we can include more information, however she is not updating it currently due to a cyber-attack. The Plinths are continuing to be regularly updated. We voted on the Meadow Park picture and Brenda intends to include village scenes, and ask people to vote on these. Brenda also mentioned that she is asked to include something in the East Leake Times each month.

NEXT STEPS – Alan to supply Brenda some information about the sewerage visit to include in the E.L.T.

Library: (Trevor) Everything is now in 1 box. Brenda has added leaflets to take away. Information about the Facebook page, working parties, walk leaflets and contact information, so this is all now sorted!

River Soar Catchment Partnership : (Ian) – Ian attended another meeting. It appears that water environment grants are being taken by other people, and we don't meet the specifications. The Fisheries Improvement Fund however may still generate us some funds to help us make improvements to the brook. The main issues with this may be getting consent with the Internal Drainage Board, but we hope that this will be ok if we apply a "light touch" to the work.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Poo bags (Mel)

NEXT STEPS – Mel investigating

Encroaching Bamboo: (Neil) – Bamboo that has entered the park from a garden needs to be cut back, with some sort of soil barrier to be put in place to stop this spreading.

NEXT STEPS – Add this to a work park activity in the Autumn (Kev/Neil)

Fire Barriers: (Andrew) – The issue of lack of fire barriers in the park was raised, some areas need to be flailed potentially (Steve has done this in the last few years)

NEXT STEPS – Mel to raise this with the Parish Council to see if any action is to be taken.

Fish Tank for the Carnival: – Ian asked if anyone had a fish tank that could be used for display / educational purposes at the Carnival. John said that he thought he had one.

NEXT STEPS – John to supply tank to Ann if he has one (Done).

Management Plan: – It was mentioned that we are not on top of the plan, mainly due to lack of resource...but we agreed that we do our best!

Upcoming meeting dates

4th of July

5th of September

7th of November

4) FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK **TREASURERS REPORT – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 30/4/18**

Many thanks again for the membership of FMP, and the wider village community for being generous with their subscriptions and donations over the last two months.

The balance in the account at the 1st of November 2017 was £1911.79

This is split between: General Funds	£1404.79
and Arboretum Sponsorship	£507

The meet the village event provided a boost to our membership, 27 new members, along with generous donations totalling £120

There was also another donation from the village collection boxes

Mel's – for £25

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT

CREDIT

Initial Balance in Bank	£1911.79
Membership Subscriptions [136 renewed to date]	£800
Donations [Including collection boxes to date]	£201.50

TOTAL	£3655.29
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DEBIT

Shrubs/wild flower seeds for Forest School & Willow bed plus fencing for Little Meadow	£186.89
Compost/wildflower seed for Bee World No 4	£31
Fee for stall at EL carnival	£30
Printing for 'Meet the Village event'	£4.90

TOTAL	£1128.79
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Balance as at 30/4/18 : Total	£2526.50
General Funds	£2019.50
Arboretum Sponsorship	£507

Also the membership donation of £200 from British Gypsum is still ongoing.

Andy Denker [Treasurer] 30/4/18

NEXT STEPS – We could use the funds for a new trolley and a wheelbarrow, or for any tools or resources we need if and when we do work on the brook.

5) FUNDING APPLICATIONS: (Alan) – Carried forward - Looking at funding for an i-pad to use for Meadow Park publicity (photos of park etc).

6) ACTIVITIES UPDATE :

The Scheduled Activity day in March covered:

Sowing the wildflower seeds in Bee World No 4. Create sowing areas in willow bed for poppy seeds. Cut back the hedge line on the north boundary of Play Field. Remove brash from brook to fire site and cut brash from hedge laying session for fire. Cut back of hawthorn in Hall Field. Litter picking

The Activity day in April was cancelled due to flooding

Total hours worked to date - 122

The Unscheduled Activity days in March and April covered:

March - Assist Forest School to plant the remaining 15 shrubs. Sow seeds in and plant foxglove in Electric Ave, sow seeds in willow bed area and adj to sessile oak. Fit new post and fix nesting bird signs Hall Field. Repair additional damage to fence in Little Meadow .Bonfire to burn brash. Litter picking

April – Bailing out of Bee world No 4. Cutting back scrub in Hall Field. Liaise with Forest School and cut back various damaged trees in area. General inspection of Park

Total hours worked to date – 192.5 AED 30/4/18

NEXT STEPS (ACTIVITY DAYS) – Neil and Kevin to do a rough plan for this year, going into next year.

7) NEXT ACTIVITY DAYS

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

8) NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4th July, 7.30pm, Parish Offices.