

## MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK COMMITTEE MEETING

1st May 2019

**1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Alan, Trevor, John.

Present: Andy, Eric, Ann, Kevin, Kev, Brenda, Alan, Sue, Neil, Ian, Mel.

**2) MINUTES OF THE FMPC MEETING OF MARCH 2019 WERE RATIFIED.**

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

Arboretum: (Andy) - The replacement trees in the Arboretum and 'Frank Kirk Way' have all been watered in the recent dry conditions and are doing well. The concerns over the Larch are happily at the present unfounded with the tree now developing its foliage. The only concern now being the Sessile Oak which might have to be replanted in new soil in November to give it a better chance. All the other trees are doing well.

- Kevin raised the fact that there used to be a photo of the Major Oak and detail stating that our Oak (from Microprop), has been cloned from this tree.

**NEXT STEPS – Kevin to raise this with the Parish Council and to see if there can be some agreed wording put on a plaque. If so, Kevin to send this to Andrew to see if we can get a plaque done in stainless steel.**

Forest School update: (Ann / Andy) – The shrub check in March revealed 19 have survived and these will be given TLC in the May work party. Having liaised with the teacher on 29/4 they are looking at producing/fitting bug boxes in the area as a project [A possible purchase of kits by FOMP?], they would require bamboo/twigs for the infill which are available from the park. (update from Andy on May 6<sup>th</sup> is that Forest School will purchase their own bug boxes and a Pallet that was originally requested will no longer be required).

Also they require willow/dogwood cuttings for wand production on May 20<sup>th</sup>

The use of wooden poles instead of the local trees is now feasible – the overall cost of materials for 6 poles + fittings etc approx £120

**NEXT STEPS – Andy to cut some dogwood pre May 20<sup>th</sup> for Forest School.**

**– Andy to order posts (£120).**

Tree planting and tree requests: (Ann) – Ann was concerned about the Beech and Wild Cherry, but we will just have to monitor these and hope they take well.

Bird box update : (Eric) – Andy has bought 20 guards.

**NEXT STEPS – Andy and Eric to put the guards on to the bird boxes in November.**

**NEXT STEPS – Mel has found a bird box and will pass it to Andy. This will then be put up when the bat box is put up.**

Publicity / Competitions / Website / Facebook update: (Brenda) – Brenda showed us the new banner, and all agreed it was excellent. The notice boards are also due to be changed at the next weekend, and Brenda would like to include some information about Kingston Brook.

**NEXT STEPS – Brenda to pass the information about Kingston Brook to Ian, so he can check it over.**

Meet Your Village : (Kevin) - There seemed less people at this event this year, however we did ok. 4 new single memberships, 6 new family memberships, and 2 family re-joined memberships. Total taken £52, but also a fair amount of people talked to and given membership forms.

Willow bed extension and willow structure: (John / Mel) – No progress has been made on the willow bed extension.. With regards to the existing structure, it is felt we should do something positive with this.

**NEXT STEPS – Mel to speak to her contact to see how we might weave the existing structure.**

Willow weaving: (Mel) – Mel to soak the willow (utilising the carnival tarpaulins) and then will demonstrate to people how to willow weave.

**NEXT STEPS – Mel to demonstrate weaving to anyone who wishes to attend on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of May at 3pm (garden at the back of the village hall).**

New trees / Bateman fencing / Bamboo: (Andy / Kev) – We could put some new trees around Lagoon Field (this land is adopted by Severn Trent), we could put a dozen Wild Cherries and Junipers around the periphery, and also say a dozen Alders along the Bateman Road side.

- With regards to the fencing along Bateman Road, Andy has calculated that this would need around 33 posts, and cost would be £452 if we do the work (starting at the gate and then moving along from there).

**NEXT STEPS – Andy to lead the Bateman Road fencing project.**

- With regards to the bamboo issue, Paul Phillips stated that he doesn't know of any specific contractors that Rushcliffe use for this, but suggested we could approach Streetwise Environmental. We discussed options such as injecting the stems with glycosusphate, putting a root membrane around it, or just digging it out, but we are still unsure how to progress.

**NEXT STEPS – Ian to speak to a contractor as to what we might do**

- Trees need to be added around the periphery of Bateman Road and the Lagoon.

**NEXT STEPS – Andy to look at where we might put some new trees.**

Using our funds going forwards: (All) – The following ideas were suggested...

- Have a party to celebrate mid summers day.
- Plant primroses and other native plants.
- Build a limestone area for wildflowers.

Meadow Park clothing: (Mel) –

**NEXT STEPS – Mel has some high vis vests, and will decide wording and hopes to get some produced in a selection of sizes.**

Carnival: (Andy/Kev) – Update as at 17/06/19. Due to various issues and commitments we have decided not to do a stall at the carnival this year.

Plinth refurbishment: (Alan) – Malcolm Lane has been chased on this, but is busy at the moment

**NEXT STEPS – Carry forward this issue.**

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Bat detecting: (Ian) – A detector can be put on a tree to identify types that pass by. Ian is going to put one on a tree in his garden with the possibility of later trying it down Meadow Park.

Fires in Hall Field: (Ian) – We don't know who started these fires, but they were put out by the Fire Brigade.

**NEXT STEPS – All to think carefully where we place brush around the park going forwards.**

Dog fouling picture (Mel) – One of Mel's customers has done a cartoon / picture to remind people to pick up their dog waste.

**NEXT STEPS – Mel to put up the pictures around the park.**

Nesting bird sign (Mel) – A person down the park asked Mel which birds were nesting. We discussed which these were so that we can explain to people going forwards (willow warbler / wren etc).

Flood (Linear maps)- Ian explained that the Paleochannel is clearly the old Kingston Brook (not Sheepwash) and talked about the details of the Lidar. Ian is also putting in plans and projects to the Environment Agency to see if we can get funding to help restore areas. We may for example to get some assistance to do some light touch work, but it is probably unlikely that the IDB would agree to it.

#### **4) FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK** **TREASURERS REPORT – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 6/3/19**

##### FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK TREASURERS REPORT – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 1/5/19

Many thanks again to 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 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018 was £2085.82

This is split between: General Funds	£1573.79
and Arboretum Sponsorship	£512.03

##### SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT

###### CREDIT

Initial Balance in Bank	£2085.82
Membership Subscriptions [to date]	£680
Donations [Including collection boxes]	£537
Arboretum Sponsorship	£250
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>6£3560.82</u>

###### DEBIT

FOMP Banner design - EHT Studio	£36
FOMP banner production – Thistlebank Graphics	£56.25
Grappling hook for use in brooks	£26.48
96 off seed fibre pots [for plug plants]	£17.97
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£701.53</u>

Balance as at 1/5/19 : Total	£2859.29
General Funds	£2308.49
Arboretum Sponsorship	£550.80

Outstanding items that will require payment over the coming weeks are as follows:

- 150 off plug plants from Naturescape - £84.50
- 20 off nest box front plates from RSPB – £53.95
- Irrigation pipes for new trees – Ewburrow nursery - £89.80
- Repair and repaint of lecturns – approx £200

Andy Denker [Treasurer] FMP 1/5/19

**5) FUNDING APPLICATIONS** - : Alan to update us at the next meeting.

**6) ACTIVITIES UPDATE** : (Andy)

The Activity days in March and April covered:

Scheduled:

Seed sowing and Primrose/Oxlip/Foxglove planting in beeworld No4, Bateman rd gate and Sheepwash bank and other park entrances. Litter pick in Sheepwash and Kingston brooks. Tidy up of 2<sup>nd</sup> copse adj Arboretum. General litter picking.

Total hours worked to date – 166

Unscheduled Activity days in March/April covered:

Forest School – bird watching session. Arboretum inspection, Bateman and Forest School area shrub check. Digging over and planting of various plants – Sculpture border. Strimming and scrub removal - areas of Hall Field. Watering of new trees in Arboretum. Wild flower counts.

**7) NEXT ACTIVITY DAYS**

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

**8) NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 3rd July, 2019. 7.30pm, Parish Offices.