

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING ON 13 OCTOBER 2011

Present: John Bishop (Chairman) Geoffrey Woricker
 Ian Read (Vice Chairman) Julie Norman
 Linden Rosam Bob Norman
 Peter Athey (part only)
 Kate Hardingham (Secretary)

Attending: Den Harvey

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	The absence of Peter Nightingale and Chris Saltmarsh was noted and accepted.
2.	MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
	The minutes for the Committee meeting held on 15 September had not yet been presented. It was agreed that they would be approved at the next Committee meeting.
3.	PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES
3.1	Land Trust
	The Chair presented to the meeting the letter from the Parish Council (PC) dated 28 September. After discussion, it was agreed that the Chair will send a letter of response in the form discussed. With regard to the amount of time the Committee is spending on this issue it was agreed that a sub-committee be formed to further consider and respond to the PC's proposal. The sub-committee will have no decision-making powers and will report back to the main Committee. The sub-committee will initially comprise John Bishop, Linden Rosam and Kate Hardingham. JOHN BISHOP TO SEND LETTER OF RESPONSE TO THE PC JOHN BISHOP, LINDEN ROSAM AND KATE HARDINGHAM TO MEET TO DISCUSS THE PC PROPOSAL
3.2	Football Field Entrance
	It was noted that the PC works on the new entrance had finally been undertaken but that the drop off on either side of the entrance way was of concern. It was agreed that the Committee should wait until the "further works" (as per the minute of the October PC meeting) had been completed before raising their concerns with the PC. JOHN BISHOP TO SPEAK TO CHRIS SALTMARSH (AS PC REPRESENTATIVE) TO ENQUIRE WHAT FURTHER WORKS ARE ENVISAGED
	Following the new entrance works being undertaken, it was agreed that Danbury Juniors, who paint the white lines on the football fields, should be asked not to use the Fields entrance to avoid paint marks on the meadows. JOHN BISHOP TO SPEAK TO DANBURY JUNIORS
3.3	Field Inspections
	It was noted that the dog mess bin on Moor Hall lane entrance is overflowing. It was agreed that the situation be monitored and if necessary the Committee should request a larger bin

	from the PC.
	The Committee discussed the occurrence of small squares of turf which have been dug up around the Fields and the likelihood that someone with a metal detector was probably the cause. It was agreed that there was little which could be done but that those doing the field inspections should keep watch for anyone with a metal detector.
3.4	Hay Crop
	It was agreed that the letter from the PC dated 5 October responding to the Committee's concerns was unsatisfactory.
	PETER ATHEY LEFT THE MEETING
4.	TREASURERS REPORT/BUDGET ITEMS
	The report updated to October 2011 was presented to the meeting.
5.	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT
	Nothing to report.
6.	WEBSITE
	Nothing to report.
7.	WORKING PARTIES
	A memorial tree which died is to be replaced.
	Work will continue clearing the ditch from the main entrance northwards.
	The fence across the back end of the building site had wire removed from it but this has now been replaced.
	A villager has offered to empty bins at the picnic area, both normal and dog mess, to the PC collected bins at the car park. It was agreed to accept the offer and request additional bins and liners be provided by the PC.
	JOHN BISHOP TO CONTACT THE VOLUNTEER AND THE PC
8.	EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES
8.1	Christmas Dinner
	It was agreed that the Christmas dinner be held on Wednesday 14 December.
	JOHN BISHOP TO MAKE BOOKING AND CONFIRM ATTENDANCES
8.2	September Country Fayre
	It is understood that the Priory Acres group made approximately £1000.
8.3	Christmas event
	The idea of holding a Christmas event on the Fields was discussed, possibly some kind of nativity event for children.
	KATE HARDINGHAM TO SPEAK TO ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

9.	PUBLICITY/GREEN FLAG AWARD
9.1	Green Flag
	It was noted that no new application need be made next year but a simpler update will be required. The update will review what action has been taken as regards the recommendations made following the current award including erecting a brown sign, placing small mammal boxes and the use of dog mess and litter bins.
9.2	The Journal
	No article to be provided this month.
9.3	Brown Sign
	Investigations have been made into obtaining a brown sign for the Fields though it was noted that the cost is significant. It was decided that no action be taken until a response has been received from the PC regarding the land trust.
10.	AGM
	It was noted that the Pitman Room is not available on the night of the AGM. It was agreed that Jesters, St Andrew's Church Hall and Woodham Ferrers Congregational Hall be approached, in that order, to secure a venue.
	The agenda was approved subject to the amendments discussed. LINDEN ROSAM TO PRINT 50 COPIES AND BRING THEM TO THE AGM
11.	NEWS ITEMS
	Mr Den Harvey volunteered to join the Committee.
12.	NEXT MEETING
	The next main Committee meeting will be held on 10 November 2011.
	Meeting closed at 10.00pm

Signed:

Date: