

FRIENDS OF PRIORY FIELDS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING ON 12 APRIL 2012

Present: John Bishop (Chairman) Geoffrey Woricker
Ian Read (Vice Chairman)
Chris Saltmarsh (PC Representative)
Kate Hardingham (Secretary)
Bob Norman
Julie Norman

Attending: Albert Weir - Parish Councillor

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies were received from Linden Rosam, Peter Athey, Peter Nightingale and Den Harvey.
2.	MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
	The minutes for the Committee meeting held on 8 March 2011 were approved and then signed by the Chairman.
3.	PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES
3.1	Proposed Joint Committee
	<p>It was noted that the Parish Council (PC) has confirmed that the committee must be a formal sub-committee and subject to the regulations that apply to the PC and its committees, such as requiring a PC member as a Chairman and requiring monies held to be covered by the PC's financial insurance policy (to protect against fraud).</p> <p>It was noted that John Bishop, Linden Rosam and Ian Read would be meeting with the PC on 18 April to discuss the changes to the proposed terms of reference for the sub-committee. It was agreed that the (FoPF) Committee would not discuss their thoughts in detail at this meeting but feed these back to John Bishop so that they can be raised with the PC. However, it was agreed that the Committee remained concerned that the autonomy of the proposed joint-committee was a key term on which the PC has now amended its position.</p> <p>It was further agreed that the PC should be asked to escalate the discussions on the terms of the Deed of Covenant (it had been agreed that the Deed be considered by the joint-committee). It was decided that the PC should be asked to incorporate more detail into the Deed of Covenant to protect the Committee's position should agreement not be reached on the terms of the joint-committee.</p> <p>COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO FEED COMMENTS AND CONCERNS TO JOHN BISHOP PRIOR TO 18 APRIL</p>
3.2	Children's play events
	It was noted that the April events had gone well and were well attended despite the weather. The next events will be held in July.

3.3	Jubilee Picnic and Olympic Event
	<p>It was agreed that the Committee would assist the PC in relation to these events and the Fields would be available for both occasions. In addition, the jogging track around the Fields would be offered as part of the sports focus for the Olympic event (though advance notice would be needed to ensure it was in appropriate condition. It was agreed that these events would be discussed with the PC on 18 April.</p> <p>JOHN BISHOP, LINDEN ROSAM, IAN READ TO RAISE WITH PC AT MEETING ON 18 APRIL</p>
3.4	Haycrop
	<p>A new contractor, Mark Woricker, has offered to do a conservation haycrop on the Fields without charge and would be willing to pay £100 for the hay taken. He has confirmed he has all the necessary paperwork to satisfy PC health and safety requirements. Peter Nightingale has discussed the requirements of the conservation haycrop and Mr Woricker has confirmed he can cut the hay to those specifications. Mr Woricker has also offered the use of his flail-mower for the working parties.</p> <p>It was agreed that, subject to Mr Woricker meeting the PC's health and safety requirements, the Committee would use him to do the haycrop.</p>
4.	TREASURERS REPORT
	<p>No report was presented to the meeting due to the absence of the Treasurer. This item was postponed until the next meeting. It was noted that there were no major costs planned this month.</p>
5.	ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT
	<p>In the absence of Peter Nightingale it was noted that there had not been significant progress since the last meeting.</p>
6.	WEBSITE
	<p>Nothing to report.</p>
7.	WORKING PARTIES
	<p>It was noted that the following works would be undertaken at the next working party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass cutting; • Barbed wire removal; • Outlining the footprint of the Priory (in liaison with MAHG) • Ongoing maintenance, no major works. <p>The PC Representative was asked if he would liaise with the PC regarding whether the PC would wish the Committee to continue clearing the ditch along the boundary of the football pitch and, if so, whether the PC will contribute to the work.</p>
8.	ACTIVITIES & EVENTS
	<p>Discussed in item 3 above.</p>
9.	PUBLICITY

9.1	Publicity
	It was noted that the articles for this month had already been provided. Committee members were asked to provide snow pictures for the 2012 Christmas cards. COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO PROVIDE SNOW PICTURES TO JULIE NORMAN BY END MAY The content for the display for the Annual Parish Assembly on 11 May was discussed. It was agreed that the following items should be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play day events • Archaeology (using sketches etc from MAHG) • Four seasons theme for photographs and flora/fauna information
9.2	Green Flag
	It was noted that an inspection date will be provided shortly (will be before end May).
9.3	Brown Sign
	The PC Representative asked for a copy of the application pack in order to consider whether there is merit in a joint application with the PC.
10.	NEWS ITEMS
	It was noted that Bicknacre is not being entered into the Essex Village of the Year award.
12.	NEXT MEETING
	The next main Committee meeting will be held on 10 May 2012.
	Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

Date: