

Minutes of the meeting of the Trustees of Carbrooke Village Millennium Green on 23rd July 2021

Present; Trevor Birkby, Jerry Darby, Edit Davies, Trevor Carlin, Paul Colley, Helen Gore, Jo Naylor, Will Durgan

Apologies for absence; Tony Coppen, John DuHadway

Matters Arising

The replacement ropes on the outdoor gym are in hand and the rotten log has been removed. PC to organise suitable replacement log.

The gate hinges on the gate to the play area have been replaced and been broken again TB to source replacement hinges at around £45 per pair.

TC was writing to/meeting with the Watton Mayor but COVID delayed this.

ED to invoice the school £500 for use of the green for the next academic year 21/22 and also state that the trustees have waived the charge for the last year as a good will gesture due to pandemic disruption.

Bird boxes now sold out with a small waiting list. Bat boxes proved unpopular but the two remaining boxes JN and HG will purchase at £20 each.

Chairman's report

TC sent in absence the following; still waiting to hear about the return of the community payback people, problem seems to be safe transport in a confined space. The Parish council is yet to hold a meeting discussing the grant application for our insurance.

Secretary's report

All personnel changes, changes of office and address have been reported to the Charity Commission and JD has acquired the necessary passwords for the web site.

Treasurer's report

As of 7th July 2021 the bank balance sits at £3229.22 Outstanding expenses, £500 insurance, £200 purchase of the BBQ, about £666 maintenance reimbursements leaving £1863. Only regular income is from the Breckland lottery averaging around £70 per month.

Payments for reimbursement of trustees expenditures in future to be made by bank transfer rather than cheque to speed the process. Email ED information to arrange payment.

Maintenance report

PC reported that with current resources it is a struggle to keep up with maintaining all the features of the green.

PC to investigate ant liability issues with non trustee volunteers working on the green.

Work to be done;

Tree in orchard

Top wild flower areas

Pond weed

Machinery maintenance

PC reported that for warranties and liabilities a certified worker is not required for equipment maintenance.

TC has a ride on mower which we may be able to purchase, this to be followed up when TC available.

TB is measuring up timber to replace the rotten parts of the picnic benches.

New bench installation to be discussed at next meeting

Bob Buscall memorial tree to be replaced by the Parish Council, trustees to look after its ongoing welfare. The plaque has now been removed by JD and put inside container A

Fallen pond sign to be removed and put in container for future use.

Deep hole in ground by pond bench has now been filled by JD.

Fundraising report

COVID has obviously prevented physical fundraising activities but hopefully thing will improve in the coming year.

Breckland Lottery is giving a significant steady income, word of mouth is best way to increase our support base.

JN and HG will investigate the possibility of holding a Halloween event.

Other ideas included street food vendors, involving Scout groups in helping staff events.

JD reported the currently availability of grant schemes;

Breckland council Green Community grants, 80 x £500 and 6-12 £5-10K.

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/17483/Green-Community-Grants>

Breckland Council community matched funding up to £5K

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/community-funding>

Tesco community grants

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/community-funding>

National lottery

JD to apply for grants around capital purchases eg. machinery or projects such as the pond or community wellbeing which ever appropriate to each grant stream.

Use of old slide

HG reported that following the inspection the slide was inappropriate for the mound on the amphitheater and manufacturing a new bespoke frame would be cost prohibitive. The slide will be disposed of and PC will take it away.

AOB

None

Date of next meeting Friday October 1st 2021 which will also be the AGM. This to be advertised in Carbrooke online.