

Minutes of the trustees of Carbrooke Millennium Green 13th January 2023

Present; Trevor Carlin, Nathan DeFew, Edit Davies, Jo Naylor, Clare Talbot, Jerry Darby. Also in attendance;  
Graham Redfern Carbrooke Parish Council  
Helen Crane Breckland District Council

Apologies for absence; Helen Gore, Will Durgan

Minutes for last meeting 7th October 2022 approved.

Matters arising; none reported.

Secretary's report; Jerry Darby reported that Trevor Birkby and John DuHadway had resigned as trustees but would be pleased to continue helping with work for the green. They were both thanked for their service as trustees.

Chairperson position; Nathan DeFew proposed electing a permanent Chair rather than the rotational situation since the Chair was vacated by Tony Coppen. Nathan proposed Jerry Darby which was seconded by Trevor Carlin and Jerry Darby was unanimously elected as Chair of the Trustees.

Treasurers report; Nathan DeFew reported that the current bank balance stood at £7669, with few outgoings. Income was from the Bazaar and the Breckland lottery. £3k was ring-fenced for the wild flower/maze project.

NatWest Bank transfer is progressing albeit slowly due to the complexity of the security requirements needed to open a bank account. Original signed Deed documents were given to Nathan by Jerry as requested by NatWest.

Edit Davies and Trevor Birkby currently are the signatories for the Bank account.

Anglia water disconnection still progressing and Nathan will ask for rebate of payments.

Maintenance; Jerry reported that the Community payback workers will be available from Saturday 21st Jan and then alternate Saturdays. It was decided that the workers could start with clearing the maze, repairing the fences, clearing the amphitheater and molehills. The workers only require access to the toilets in the village hall and a rota of trustees to liaise with the probation supervisor will be needed for this to work smoothly. They will supply all their refreshments but an odd cake or packet of biscuits might be welcomed to show our appreciation.

Clare Talbot said Alex will soon be able to fell the damaged tree near the pond.

Playground inspections; with Trevor Birkby no longer a trustee the responsibility for safety inspections of the play equipment fall to the remaining trustees. Any issues noticed to be reported to Jerry who will perform a regular inspection and keep appropriate records.

Fundraising; The Christmas Bazaar raised £65.55 good work from those involved. Breckland Lottery currently raising £780pa which has slipped slightly. It was agreed to raise the profile via our social media, Jo Naylor to action.

The Summer event on the green still in the planning stage but we will need to prepare the green as required leading up to the event.

It was suggested that the new Lidl store might be receptive to grant requests helping its new local community. Nathan to explore.

Helen Crane indicated there was funding available up to £500 for a Kings coronation community event on 8th May from Breckland DC. Nathan to contact the Village hall events committee as each village organisation might be able to apply separately to increase the joint fund available for a village event.

Perhaps a hog roast/BBQ on the green and TV coverage and refreshments in the hall.

Inspiring communities project; Dawe estates have mown the wild flower areas and as soon as conditions allow spray off the pernicious grasses, cultivate and reseed with wild flower seeds. The maze topping and hedge cutting will commence when conditions allow.

Tesco bags of help Nature trail application; The voting for this project will commence mid Jan at the Watton Tesco store, we should advertise this widely to improve our chances of maximum funding. When we know our budget signs can be designed and ordered identifying and providing information of the flora and fauna to be found on the green. It was discussed involving Norfolk Wildlife trust in sourcing photographs and illustrations to avoid infringement of copyright. The school might also wish to be involved in the project.

Tree planting; The Parish council supplied an evergreen Holme Oak, stake, metal protector and commemorative plaque to celebrate the life of our late Queen. In addition the PC supplied a replacement Bob Buscall memorial beech tree. Both trees were planted on the green on 11th Jan.

Nathan DeFew has acquired 400 Trees from the Queens canopy initiative. These should arrive in March and compromise a range of species which can be used in appropriate areas of the green. The school may wish to be involved at the planting stage

AOB Jerry to apply for grant money from the PC towards our insurance costs prior to April 1st.

Date of next meeting; Friday April 14th 7.30pm Village Hall