

Minutes of Maids Moreton Conservation Group
Wednesday 16th September 2020
7.30pm by Zoom videoconference

Present: Diana Clark, Kevin and Lyn Robinson, Pauline Kneafsey, Stevie Lishman, Andrew and Anna Hyde, Bernard Page, Pat Hardcastle, Jane Wood, Kathleen Platts, Natasha Rose, John Ingles, Clare and Andy Hodgson

Apologies: Steve Tysom

1. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Mound Acct £125.79
 - b. MMCG Acct £1025.71
 - c. The Action Group Acct remains unchanged.
2. Liaison updates
 - a. PC
 - i. There has been no further news on progress with the Walnut Drive S106 Agreement.
 - ii. Community Right to Bid is in final stages to be formally approved on 7th October. A big thank you to Pat and Jane for taking that forward with such enthusiasm and determination.
 - b. NP
 - i. The biggest problem is the Government's proposed changes to Planning and Development, which appear to reduce the influence of NPs.
 - ii. Aim is to complete the final draft before the end of the financial year, it has slowed while CRtB was prioritised.
 - iii. £2000 is potentially available as a grant for traffic speed and volume surveys, which could identify where traffic calming measures are required.
 - c. Action Group
 - i. S106 needs to be signed off before further action is possible. Approval for outline planning is not legally valid until this occurs.
 - ii. Pat contacted the Action Group's traffic consultant, who has queried a number of dubious points in the developer's documentation relating to traffic and access.
 - iii. VALP progress is hard to follow and it is unclear what is happening and what the outcome will be.
3. Subgroups
 - a. Footpaths
 - i. A huge thank you to Derek and Bernard for laying the gravel – heavy work that is greatly appreciated by all the footpath users. Derek reported that over the years, the gravel has been building up a solid base for walkers.
 - b. Scotts Lane
 - i. Thanks to all the volunteers who created 'windows/spaces' looking into the fields and thanks to Lyn for organising the Ortons to dispose of the bags. Lyn wished to give a token of thanks to the Ortons. Stevie and Diana will organise.
 - ii. Thanks to Pat, Jane and Michael for the chalked labels identifying the trees. It was thought to be a very good idea.
 - c. School Pond
 - i. The school pond is to be reinstated in an improved location within the forest school area of the grounds; John described his abundant pond. Ponds would make a good project and are to be an agenda item.
4. Scotts Lane Development
 - a. To be watched and to be a monthly agenda item.

5. Meetings
 - a. At present to continue on Zoom as we are unable to meet in Village Hall. LR to liaise with Mick and PK to liaise with Liam.
6. Grant from PC
 - a. PK will apply for a grant for gravel and printing of newsletters.
7. Memorials
 - a. We will liaise with WI and PC.
8. Future Events - 3rd October Scarecrow Day
9. AOB
 - a. Lyn, Natasha and Pauline will try to put together a MMCG Facebook page.
 - b. Dave Baxter delivered 8 bat boxes which he has made and donated to the Conservation Group with wood supplied by Chris Freeman. Sites to be considered.

Date of the next meeting - Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 7.30pm.

After the meeting, Lyn and Kevin gave a short talk on the Church of England's climate change initiative. It was agreed to identify opportunities where the group could respond to and support St Edmund's initiatives. Clare will keep us informed.