

Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall
Wednesday 18th September 2013
Cherry Hinton Village Church Centre, Colville Road, Cherry Hinton

Attendance

In attendance were David Taylor, Sandra Day, Emily Poyser, Judy Webb and 12 others
Apologies from Stuart Newbold, Ian Simmons, Michelle Bullivant, Barbara Gordon, Gillian Palmer & Elizabeth Linsey.

1. Chairs Welcome and thanks

Welcome to those in attendance, in Stuart's absence Emily will be taking the minutes for the meeting. Looking forward to the nights guest speaker, Harvey Levison, with a first aid talk and demonstration.

2. Minutes & Matters Arising

It was reported that the programme of works have not yet been received from Simon Bunn as per the last meeting.

****Action 1 – Sandra to chase this up**

Sandra reported that the stall at the Folk Festival about the Ken Woollard memorial went well, with support from the public.

Minutes of the July meeting agreed

3. Harvey Levison gave a comprehensive talk about first aid and a demonstration of ways that lives can be saved. He stated that 100,000 people per year die as they were not given first aid.

4. Maintenance Issues

Folk Festival - It was reported that due to the better weather in 2013, there was less mud damage caused during the folk festival. Issues that have arisen include white painted lines that has 'burnt' the grass. The response from Anthony French was that possibly the paint had been accidentally in contact with weed killer, and so killing the grass. It was also noted that grass had been churned up at the entrance of the maintenance area within the park.

Recent vandalism - it was reported that a post has been knocked down by the noticeboard and the same weekend benches and bins were set fire to. Other problems include branches falling from trees – potential health and safety hazard. The council are said to be aware of the problems and are looking into solutions.

Ken Woollard Memorial – Sandra reported that at a recent meeting the council stated they are looking at the possible idea to use funds for any artwork from the masterplan funds. But, the problem is that the council have also said that a memorial can not be erected from council funds for a former employee. In this case a standard plaque would normally be erected. After much debate at the meeting, it was agreed that a bespoke bench could be placed in the park as a memorial to Ken, but this would not be council funded. It would have to be the standard height expected with other benches but could have some ornate elements as long as the height isn't effected. It would need to be low maintenance and durable so it was agreed a metal bench would be best.

Grant bids for equipment – Stuart is mainly involved in the grant and the paperwork so this will be reported on at the next meeting.

New play equipment – Sandra reported that Declan (from the council) is keen to replace the 2 swings in the play area as these are from the 1970s and could pose a health & safety risk. They will be replaced with a double swing and a house with a slide. Sandra has also been sending Declan ideas and photos of any other equipment that could potentially be put into the area for the children.

5. Meetings & Events

Community Action Day 26th October – All encouraged to come along to help tidy up the park. To meet by the waterfall, please bring wellies and gloves. Insurance has now been taken out which means someone from the council does not need to be present during these clear-up days.

Disco in aid of defibrator fund 12th October – All encouraged to attend, this is being held at the Village Hall.

Community Groups Fair – Sandra gave feedback that the event was not as well attended as previous years, with 300 people in attendance and 28 stalls. Proceeds from the raffle were given to the defibrillator fund.

Christmas Event 23rd November – Again being held at the Village Centre.

6. AOB

Gate – this is not being kept shut with council vehicles going into the park and on departure leaving the gate open. Jesus Green is having a trial gate which is self-closing, depending on the outcome, this could be something to put forward to the council for CH Hall. It was agreed that if anyone sees this gate open, they are welcome to close it as those who are allowed access would have a key.
Traffic Survey – Anthony French to be chased up for the approval and letter of authorisation which would allow volunteers from FCHH to carry out the survey.

Dog Photo Competition – Sandra reported that 2 winners will have their dogs photos on the 'No Dog' signs that are being placed around the childrens play area.

Dogs fouling in the play area - Dog Warden patrols are going to be increased to deter people letting their dogs into the play area and using it as a toilet.

Nappies and waste – It was reported that parents are leaving used nappies on the floor and not being put into the bins – dogs are then attempting to eat them!

Next Meeting – Anthony French will be the guest speaker at the next meeting – he is the Open Space Officer for Cambridge Council.