

**Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall Minutes, 7.30 pm,
Wednesday, 18th November 2015**
Cherry Hinton Village Leisure Centre, Colville Road, Cherry Hinton

Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall is a group that is concerned about the usage, environment, welfare and future of the Cherry Hinton Hall grounds for the benefit of those who use it

7 people were in attendance at the meeting

1. Welcome

David Taylor welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Apologies from Stuart Newbold
Welcome to Anthony French, Cambridge City Council

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes agreed

3. Events and Activites

Community Action Day – 10th October 2015.

About 15 people from Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall and Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook attended, with the help of Guy Belcher. Litter was picked up and shrubs and trees cut back where required.

Pets in the Park – 18th June 2016

This will be the same format as 2015, with stalls available for £25 each, and a dog show. Monies raised from the stalls pay for the hire and insurance, with the dog show raising money for The Turbo Trust.

2016 meetings planned

Meetings - will be 16th March, 20th July (AGM), 16th November 2016. It was agreed to reduce the number of meetings to 3 per year.

Community Action Days – dates confirmed as 2nd April, 4th June and 1st October with the hope to link up with other organisations.

4. Committee Changes

Nigel and Gill Haslop have now been co-opted onto the committee and look forward to seeing them at future events.

Judy Webb is stepping down as a committee member, due to moving from the area. The committee would like to thank Judy for all her hardwork and support, and handed her some flowers at the meeting as a thankyou.

5. Speaker: Anthony French – Open Spaces

We again welcomed Anthony French to give a talk about local developments for open spaces in Cambridge.

Anthony first explained about his role and how this affects FCHH. There are 13 'Friends' groups across Cambridge rthat have have an interest in open spaces. Anthony has been at Cambridge City Council for 19 years and in March 2015 the role changed to oversee green matters, as he is a trained horticulturist.

As a Senior Asset Manager the role is diverse and covers;

- Events held on open spaces
- Moorings on River Cam
- Public Toilets
- Posterboard Service
- Seasonal Flower bedding
- Fabric of the parks (bins, seats, play areas)
- Strategic to include committees, dealing with councillors
- Health & Safety
- Development Issues such as the masterplan
- Enforcement – litter, camping etc

Cherry Hinton Hall is seen as one of the top 5 open spaces in Cambridge as its unique with the trees, lake, grass area and woodland area.

Anthony then went on to talk about different areas of the role and how this affects residents;

- Toilet Charging – this is required for commercial purposes as open spaces need to seek income streams
- Events – these provide a good income especially something like the ice-rink
- Friends Forum – this was an event held in 2015 inviting local Friends Groups to get together to discuss ideas, issues and allow chance to talk with key personnel from the council. Likely to be held every 6 months and feedback was positive. These groups are seen as useful to the council, as they are the 'eyes and ears' for any problems or changes.
- Masterplan – the Friends Group was able to help shape this for the Cherry Hinton Hall. Phil Back's report was able to determine the priorities required, due to a change in funds. Programme to be completed by March 2018.
 - Dredging of the lake is the top priority and likely to be carried out over a winter-period.
 - New path routes by front entrance to be added
 - Remove depot concrete pad
 - Park benches to be refurbished and some added
 - Landscaping of the gardens and trees nearest the hall itself to be reviewed (incase damage caused by roots to the building)
 - Thinning of trees and planting in other areas to maintain tree stock

Other areas of concern raised to Anthony included;

- Tennis Courts needing signs so only tennis played
- More cycle racks needed (outside Masterplan Funds)
- Upgrading of swings still hasn't been done. ****ACTION**** for Anthony to look into 106 play-area development funds
- Disabled bays need to be clearer
- Gap in hedge needs new post

6. AOB

Very Cherry Christmas – 28th November 2015 in the Village Centre.

This is a free event organised by Cherry Hinton Residents Association and will be expecting a visit from Santa to turn on the Christmas Lights.

The next meeting 7.30 pm, Wednesday, 18th March, at Cherry Hinton Village Leisure Centre.