



Friends of Baddesley Common

Minutes of the AGM and Public Meeting held at Baddesley Ensor Village Hall on Monday 7th November 2011 at 8.15 pm.

Present: Martyn Barrett (Chair), Linda Evans (Vice Chair) Trish Hall (Secretary), Katy Harper (Treasurer), Kyle Doran, Colin Evans, Terry Morris, June Morris, Gavin Pratt, Ron Thomas, Mick Underhill and Keith Warmington.

Martyn Barrett opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the second AGM of The Friends of Baddesley Common.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the first AGM held on 8th November 2010 had been posted on the website but copies are available for circulation if required. The first AGM had been well attended by villagers and from that meeting officers were elected, minutes were taken, verified as a true and accurate record and posted on the FOBC website.

2. Chair's Report

Martyn Barrett, the Chair of FOBC, gave the following report:

"I would like to start by saying that the group has remained strong throughout the year with new members joining our working parties and excellent attendance at committee meetings throughout 2010 and 2011. Sincere thanks are expressed to all of the committee members:

Vice Chair : Lin Evans and her consort, Colin

Treasurer : Katy Harper who has the thankless task of keeping our funds in order

Secretary : Trish Hall for taking excellent minutes, struggling sometimes with the ethnic accents of Bristolians and Brummies!

The doers and grafters – Gavin Pratt, Terry Morris, Kyle Doran and Bryan Wykes

Our resident pyrotechnical manager – Ron Thomas

Our expert in all things natural and photographer extraordinaire – Keith Warmington

Thanks to all of our volunteers and their good ladies, Lorna Ferguson and her Council and all others including our new vicar, Roger, who have got their hands dirty for the cause.

We have had an eventful year with working parties from November to April on the 'wheel' area, stumpit and particularly the top reservoir which became home to a family of ducks and their ducklings – this attracted many new visitors to the common. I have fond memories of the reservoir, having suffered a full immersion last year which is now recorded in childrens' stories at the school!

Throughout the summer we carried on in spite of the 'closed season' by planning and doing walks with the school and doing a 'moth night' in the summer. We have worked hard to keep people informed via our website which is well worth a visit. We have forged excellent working relationships with Merevale Estate, Woodside School, Baddesley Parish Council and the Open Spaces Society as our aim continues to make the Common the centre of our community.

Keith is going to give a more detailed summary so I would just like to thank my committee for their work, the volunteers who turn out in all weather (mostly sun!) and the public for their interest and normally words of encouragement.

The group is committed to looking at the feasibility of a pond in the village and the plan has been temporarily withdrawn but it remains a core aim for us to pursue.

3. Treasurer's Report

Katy Harper reported that FOBC owes a lot of thanks to the Parish Council who have very kindly provided funds for insurance.

£500 was received from the County Council Community Development Fund which enabled us to purchase much needed tools.

£200 was raised from a quiz night giving us a total income of just under £2000, most of which was restricted.

The group has spent £1331, slightly less than was received. £318.79 of the restricted money has been left for unexpected events, some of which will be spent in the next week to pay an arboricultural expert who has visited the site of the new pond to give advice on where it is best located to avoid damaging trees.

The current financial position is looking satisfactory as we don't need a lot of money yet. The next outgoing will be in January 2012 when we have to renew the public liability insurance. It is unlikely that we will receive any further funds from the Parish Council so the group will probably have to do additional fund raising.

Terry Morris proposed that the accounts were accepted, this was seconded by Colin Evans.

4. Election of Officers

Martyn Barrett reported that all members of the committee and the officers were willing to remain in post for another year. He asked for additional members to join the committee – there were no volunteers.

CE proposed that all officers be re-elected, this was seconded by Ann Woolacott.

Appointed officers of the Friends of Baddesley Common for 2011/2012 are:

Chair : Martyn Barrett
Vice Chair : Lin Evans
Treasurer : Katy Harper
Secretary : Trish Hall

5. Presentation by Keith Warmington

To conclude the AGM and Public Meeting, Keith Warmington gave an excellent presentation of photographs he had taken throughout the year demonstrating the work that had been carried out by the group. This included a superb selection of photographs on the flora and fauna of Baddesley Common.

MEETING CLOSED