Clerk's Report
Monday 28 July 2014

Memorial Seat Request

The persons who made an initial request for a memorial seat by the pond have been back in touch by telephone. I have asked them to put their request in writing and I hope to have this at the meeting.

Conservation Volunteers

The Project and Training Officer with an environmental conservation organisation called The Conservation Volunteers has been in touch. They deliver training and carry out practical conservation tasks. They would like to enquire whether any location within the district would benefit from tree planting. The Conservation Volunteers is undertaking a national tree planting project which is aiming to plant 150, 000 trees across England between 2012 – 2015. They would ideally be looking to plant anywhere from 250 – 1000 trees. They do have greater capacity if required, and there is also the potential to involve any local community groups associated or within the area.

Chichester Local Plan

The Programme Officer has been in touch with details of the Inspectors matters and issues and a list of attendees. The Clerk had responded to confirm that the Parish Council will speak at the hearing which are informal and round table meetings. Should the Parish Council decide that it does not wish to actually speak at the hearings then it is able to withdraw at any time. The Clerk spoke to the Programme Officer and he suggested that this was easier than saying no now and then deciding at a later date the Parish Council wished to make representations.

Manhood Wildlife Heritage Group

Following flooding in 2012, 13+14, an assessment of the wetlands in Birdham Parish along with Birdham Flood Group was funded by CHC and Manhood Peninsula Partnership. Having submitted a report the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group (MWHG) has been awarded further funding to carry out a similar assessment in another Parish. CHC was keen that such work should take place in an area where the ditch network feeds into the Harbour and so we have chosen Itchenor. Tony Burnand is the part time wetlands officer and will be walking the length of the ditches as well as visiting ponds etc and evaluating their condition with a view to drawing up a programme of works with people and wildlife in mind.

Any other important matters that arise will be reported verbally at the meeting