**Friends of Bradgers HillMeeting –8 November2017**

1. **Present:**

Abi Coupe, Dave Coupe, Alan Mason, Charulata Patel, James Hetherington, Margaret Hetherington, Bob Tarron, Rita Tarron and Trevor Tween.

1. **Apologies:**

Jim Casey, Judy Entwistle, Steve & Louise Purser, Judith Batson.

1. **Minutes of October Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2017**

Agreed.

**Action:** Abi to confirm with Paul that he is happy to remain as Fundraising Officer as he was not present during the Officer elections at the AGM.

1. **Finance (Alan Mason)**

Alan advised that the current balance is £341 (£149 from TCV & £192 of our own).

**Your Say Your Way**

We were successful in our bid for £980 composed of:

* Equipment - £200
* Resources/speaker support - £190
* Reopening of the nature trails and associated marketing - £550
* TCV Membership - £40

Alan attended the meeting on 18 October to discuss funding distribution. As per last year we are now able to claim 50% of the funds and will then need to submit invoices before we can claim the second half.

For the first invoice we will claim money for reopening of the nature trails. James will be liaising with Esther Clarke and Trevor Tween to agree some dates in early 2018. We would hope to complete the working before the end of March when the bird nesting season begins.

1. **2018 Programme**

Highlights include:

* Monthly meetings. Possible guest speakers include the Police Wildlife Officer (Tracey Day), the Environment Agency, someone involved with the River Lea conservation projects or Felicity Brindall from Luton Hoo. We will approach Tracey for January.
* Walks, approximately 5 miles, led by Bob and Rita. The next one will be held on 19 November (needs to be added to the Notice Boards). Meeting at 10am in the car park adjacent to The Bramingham up to Bramingham Wood. Also a number of themed walks such as the bat and bird walks, plus a Christmas Walk hosted by Trevor Tween.
* Try to introduce some activities aimed at younger people such as mini beast identification, competitions such as photography, art and or recipes.
* Litter picks - 4 per year. Future dates of 4 February, 15 April, 29 July, and 7 October 2018.
* Butterfly Surveying between May – October.
* Reopening of the lower nature trail and conservation work
* Wildlife Weekend (to be spread out across the summer in 2018).

1. **Rights of Way& Interpretation Signage**

Rachel Hopkins and David Franks have offered to officially unveil. The unveiling will take place on 25 November, which is also the date when the Community Hub Garden is launched.

Action: Abi & Dave to contact Paul to liaise on plans for the Garden and Sign launch, ensuring that local press are invited and supplied with lines.

Access Work Parties will take place on the following Saturdays:

* 25 November 2017
* 13 January 2018

All will meet at 9:30am by the roundabout at Bushmead Road/Fairford Avenue. All finish by 12:30pm.

1. **AOB**

Charulata has finalisedour Risk Assessment Form.**Action:** Abi to check the layout and then circulate the Form.

The Christmas Meal will be on Wednesday 6 December at Fusion Restaurant. If you are interested and haven’t already please let Abi know. Abi will circulate menu choices in advance.

James raised that he had identified that a trench has been dug at the Fairford Avenue part of the Hill. Trevor advised that this was implemented by Luton Borough Council to prevent vehicles from accessing the Hill and fields.