

Coneyberry Millennium Green

Registered Charity number:- 1073176

Chairs Report 2022 AGM 20/04/22

Welcome to our AGM. We have been lucky in that as far as the Green itself is concerned, it hasn't been much affected by this dreadful COVID-19 pandemic and has fulfilled its purpose of providing us all with a place to take some exercise and escape to. Hopefully, moving forward things can only improve for all of us.

During the pandemic, the Green has been well used by a whole raft of people. Mainly villagers, but some people have travelled from as far as Solihull to visit us on a regular basis, let's hope they continue to comeespecially when the Country Fair is on in June!! And yes, for those who are unaware, plans are well advanced for this to take place on June 11th.

Last year, we have been fortunate to receive 2 grants from the Mercia Park development. £2000 was received to renovate the paths and pond banks and £400 towards some tubs with scented herbs in around the green by the seating benches. They will provide a pleasant scent for people sitting and enjoying the green. These herbs are still small at present, but once established, will be available for cooking for those who wish to use them, provided you leave more than you take! In time, they will be labelled as to what they are for easy reference.

We also applied to HS2 for £200 in funding to plant endangered Woodland species in the main copse by Chestnut Lane. However, we were unsuccessful in this bid, due to being just over 0.5km from the construction site!

On the strength of the Country Fair taking place this year, we have gone ahead and purchased some of these species this year, some of which were planted along with donated bulbs of mini Daffodils and Snowdrops, at our last working party along with the herbs. It is the trusts intention to obtain more species for planting as we move forward, to provide a protected habitat for these plants. Hopefully, next year they will provide us with a colourful display to go with the Wildflower meadows.

The array of Wildlife on our green is ever expanding. We have a Badger set in the Copse, so please be careful with small children and dogs on the

Chestnut Lane side of the copse, especially very early morning and twilight. Badgers are not exactly the most friendly of animals and their holes are large enough for small dogs to get into, so please be aware. We also have Ravens, you can tell these from Crows and Rooks who are also black in colour, by the fact they have what appears to be “feather fingers” on their wingtips. We have also been visited a few times by a Muntjac deer. These are approximately the size of a small Labrador and timid, so if you are lucky enough to see it, please try not to frighten it away.

The donated moveable goalpost on the green has been well used over the last year, so many thanks to the people who donated it to us.

We have also been fortunate to be able to provide a Fairy Glen for the children to enjoy. As the Fairies are enjoying our green and expanding in number, any donations of housing for them would be gratefully received. The parking area by the main gates is now regularly in use, with a least 1 car parked at most times. Those using this parking area are in general parking very considerately, for which we thank them. Although it is marked for 2 cars, whilst still leaving the main gate clear for emergency access with a bit of a squeeze, 3 cars can comfortably park and have done. Unfortunately, we have again suffered some vandalism on the green. For the second time, someone has considered it necessary to remove the parking signs from the gates. If anyone knows why they found it necessary to do this, or indeed who they were, please let a member of the trust know. Whilst I have been chair of the trust for the past few years, it is my intention to step down after this AGM and allow someone else to lead the trust in a new direction. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as chair and if asked would step up again, but in order to keep things fresh, someone else with a fresh pair of eyes needs to change the emphasis.

If anyone would like to join us as either a trustee, or friend of the green, please speak to any of the trustees present this evening.

Thank you.