

Following our meeting with the Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS), we have set up the "Friends of Duxford Green Spaces" (FODGS) Association, which is not affiliated to the Parish Council. The current membership is Gillian Heath (Chair), Roy O'Grady (Treasurer) and Emma Lowndes (Secretary). The minutes and agreed constitution of the FODGS inaugural meeting are provided.

Membership is open to all who wish to join for a nominal fee of £10 joining fee, plus a £10 annual subscription. Members will be kept up to date on progress and will be consulted on any issues arising. We hope that many parishioners will support the project by joining the group, even if unable to give any time. All membership fees collected will go directly towards moving the project forwards.

The FODGS constitution has been drawn up in line with that required for charities, should we wish at some time in the future to change status. By doing this, if the annual income is regularly greater than £5K, we can easily convert to charitable status at a later date. The group has been set up to cover all of Duxford green spaces, but will initially concentrate on the development of Brewery Field into a community green space from which all parishioners can benefit.

We have yet to find someone to cut and remove the hay for us. The ragwort has been removed (with sincere thanks to just 5 hard-working volunteers), and we remain hopeful of getting the hay removed at little or no cost. If anyone can help us, please contact the Clerk. (The hay needs removing as to leave it lying would be detrimental to the development of a successful wildflower meadow.)

A DPC maintenance contract will be drawn up in the autumn, to cover the regular grass mowing and hedge cutting (apart from the Elms Close boundary hedge which remains the responsibility of residents).

The hedge plants planted in March have suffered greatly from the unprecedented long, hot, dry weather. However, many of them remain viable and we can only hope that some decent rain will arrive soon.

We have now received the 3 bids from landscapers tendering for the work, but unfortunately the bids are not directly comparable and we are not able to clarify a number of important points until after the summer holidays. More importantly, we are not in a position to move forward with the build until we have raised substantial funds, since DPC will not cover these costs. We expect to appoint a landscaper at the September DPC meeting.

The construction of the entrances will be put out to tender as 3 separate jobs, as the vehicle entrance will need to be completed first. We expect to comply with all the planning conditions and hope to start work on the interior of the site in the Autumn.

If you are unable to attend the DPC meetings and wish to make specific comments, please either:

- email clerk@duxfordvillage.com
- use the 'contact us' tab on the www.duxfordvillage.com website;
- attend a Parish Council surgery, normally the first Saturday of the month at the Laceys Way community centre;
- leave a comment on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Duxfordgreen>, or
- write to The Clerk, Duxford Parish Council, 24b Laceys Way, Duxford