



Plane trees by the playground and an ancient Oak had been sculpted next to the Folly. Frances pointed out that fallen branches in the stream along the Gislingham Road were blocking the bridge and should be cleared by the Estate. The Woodland Trust had once again provided native trees and hedging to the village and that a project for the Queens Platinum Jubilee to plant Green Canopies was being planned. Joan thanked Frances for her report.

**5. Church grass cutting.** Joan explained the background to the cutting of the grass and maintaining the wildlife area at the church, due to the uncertainty of our powers to fund (we sought advice from the MSDC Monitoring Officer to help clarify this, who said that the law is rather vague with reference to Parish Meetings) she proposed that a one off £200 was offered to maintain the banks and War Memorial. If the PCC wished to propose future donations details should be presented at the September meeting before the 22/23 budget is drawn up. James Fawcett, churchwarden, accepted this offer with thanks and would continue to explore other ways of funding.

**6. AOB.** Rowland's report had been circulated in advance, but added that MSDC had responded very well to the Covid crisis, with help from volunteers and grants to help reopen businesses. He was also active in plans to help public transport and quiet lanes linking local villages. Joan thanked him for his time. Jessica Fleming was congratulated on her recent re-election, her report is on our website. She highlighted there is financial help available to plant and maintain land for nature but there is a conflict between short and long term planning. Houses or Trees? She also thanked Frances for her work and was looking forward to Music at Thornham returning. Rodger Davis had complained to Highways about flooding on the Wickham road and was exasperated that workmen had appeared but no clearing was evident. The clerk said that bat surveys are still to be completed at Olive's Bungalow and Honeysuckle Cottage had submitted a fencing application with a response from Heritage asking for changes, please comment on the plans. Sylvie added that the church bells will be rung again for Joyce Mayes 100th Birthday in June.

**Date of next Meeting.** 15th September 2021. It is still uncertain if it will be held in the village hall or on zoom, details will follow nearer the time.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.