

Friends of Halsey Field Treasurer's Report 2021/22.

- The current situation is that the bank balance is a favourable £1607.00. Funds acquired last year (£1907.6 b/f) were spent on capital items this year, and we have recently received a further £1000.00 from HCC locality grant.
- In particular, we purchased a new tree popper, more hay rakes and safety equipment, and publicity leaflets.
- Other expenditure included materials for the Bug Hotel, built with the help of Gadebridge Beavers. Although recycled wood and donated roofing felt were included, some expenses were incurred for the roof and back..
- We are grateful to donations from individual supporters, in particular in memory of the passing of Steve and Di Wilson's neighbour Chris Pritchard.
- Rather surprisingly, our interpretive Halsey Field notice continued to deteriorate, and I was successful in claiming a replacement under the guarantee. This enabled us to surreptitiously make the odd correction to the artwork, and only cost us ~£8.00 for specialist tools.
- I have been investigating the options for replacing our small brush-cutter, as it is now unreliable, and it was intended that this should be financed by funds provided by our supporters. As reported by the Chairperson, we received an invitation earlier this year from Cllr Fiona Guest to bid for ~£1000 capital funds from her locality grant. We have just heard that this bid has been successful, and so we will be able to purchase a sturdier professional brush-cutter than we would otherwise have done, and also a long arm hedge trimmer to tackle emergent blackthorn and dogwood, and to prune trees to encourage new growth as a food plant.

This is a summary of our application:

Stihl FS 94 C-E Petrol Brush-cutter

This brush-cutter is to be a replacement for an old second-hand machine that was donated to us, and is now beyond economic repair
£419 inc vat (Stihl price)

Stihl HL 92 KC-E Petrol Long-reach Hedge Trimmer

This will be used to:

- Prune inaccessible areas of tall shrubs so that the new growth provides suitable vegetation for butterfly and moth species.
- Rapidly cut back emergent scrub which is growing too densely to be removed by our tree poppers.
- Prevent the footpaths in the more wooded areas being overgrown.

£792 inc vat (Stihl price).

To cover the costs of all these items we will need to use some of our existing funds.

