

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING No. 34 Poland House, 20/1/14

1. Present and apologies

Present: Chris, Kevin, Marek, Peggy, Peter, Philip, Ron, Sheila, Steve and Trevor.

Apologies: Lynn.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed with correction in item 9. ie Tony Marshall not Richard and noting that the draft version had been circulated not the final - Sheila to resend.

Action: Sheila

3. Matters arising

Living history - tank testing witnesses: Ron agreed to contact Ron King and Kevin to contact Ellipse.

Action: Kevin & Ron.

Felling on Common: Philip would double-check whether he had sent map to Richard Pearce

Action: Phillip

December working party: cancelled.

4. Membership Secretary's report

Lynn was not present but had already received 90 renewals and 3 new members had joined on the January (long) walk that day. Trevor's elder brother requested hard copy of the FoNC newsletter which Ron agreed to supply.

Action: Ron

5. Treasurer's report

The auditor (John Harris) was working on the books. Balance at 31.12.13 was £1,121.82. Grants to FoNC had totalled £1,032 in 2013. The brushcutter, which Chilterns Conservation Board had kindly agreed to fund, would be a large capital expenditure and Peggy and Steve would liaise over its purchase.

Action: Peggy and Steve.

6. AGM planning

Frances, the speaker, was sending a slide presentation to Peter.

Peggy and helpers were to offer teas to attendees between 7.15 - 7.30pm.

Steve offered advance apologies for his non-attendance and agreed to deliver the stand and projector to Peter in advance.

Philip would pick up the keys - Sheila to re-send code to him and Trevor.

Peter would do a PowerPoint presentation behind the Chair's report etc.

Lynn and her husband, Neil, were hoping to collect subs.

Posters were up in the village promoting the event and both the Dec/Jan and Feb issues of the Naphill Gazette carried information.

FoNC had been asked to ensure that the microphone was used to help the hard of hearing.

Sheila would send Trevor a draft AGM agenda for his consideration.

Action: All

7. Membership of new committee

All the present committee agreed to stand again; Neil McMinn had expressed interest in joining too.

8. Current programmes

Pond survey: Peter Greenslade of Natural England had written in reply to Trevor's letter which had been accompanied by a copy of the pond survey and Steve had arranged an on-site meeting with FoNC, Natural England and Rachel of the Chilterns Conservation Board (who was a licensed greater crested newt handler), for 31/1/14 at 2pm (meet in the VH car park). Kevin suggested the committee draft a pond management plan.

Action: all

Junipers: saplings were being held by Peter, Trevor and Steve until they are taller, the felling had been completed and a site agreed for their planting. Steve agreed to contact Andy McVey to establish the gender of the saplings which were numbered.

Action: Steve

Brushcutter: Agreed to obtain a brushcutter funded by Chilterns Conservation Board. Ron and Peter were to undertake training in its safe use. Peggy was to investigate insuring both the cutter and personnel using it. Steve was to talk to Rachel and Peggy about the timing of funding this large capital expenditure.

Action: Steve and Peggy.

9. Ideas for forward programmes

These would be for the new committee, but suggestions included the following:

- Fete Day display - Sat 14/10/14 (Fete theme was to be "children's TV programmes)
- Historical walk in Naphill - maybe Marion Miller would lead this?
- Victorian fair on The Common - revival of an old tradition
- Family Event - shelter building, natural materials' crafts, bush craft skills, drawing
- Food for free/Foraging - Steve to investigate further
- Taking part in census days for birds, dragonflies etc
- Red Kite walk and talk

10. Next meeting

Monday 24/2/14 in Poland House at 7.30pm.