

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

COMMITTEE MEETING NO 24

7th February 2012

1. Attendees

Peggy Ewart, Philip Hussey, Peter Davis, Trevor Hussey, Stephanie Morgan, Kevin Bennett, Steve Rodrick, Ron Collins.

2. Apologies

Marek Pawlik, David Greenwood, Chris Miller

3. Previous minutes and matters arising

- Item 3, Clumps. **Trevor** is to meet Neil Harris on site shortly to discuss exactly which trees are to be felled. Steve felt that many of the diseased horse chestnuts should be able to recover and perhaps Neil could be persuaded to give them a chance (some horse chestnuts marked for felling are on the clump embankments and therefore could be original trees). **Steve** to discuss with Neil in advance of Trevor's meeting. **Trevor** to ask Neil to remove the heap of holly clippings.
- Item 6, Wessex Woodland. Philip stated that Jamie Stewart had received our map of features but had heard nothing more from Wessex Woodland.
- Item 7, HAG tank project. The Bucks Free Press photo archive may be a source of tank-testing pictures. Stephanie has contacted Broom and Wade's archivist, Peter Tozer, who is visiting the Common to view the tracks on Sunday 20th May.
- Item 12, cinder paths. Jonathan Clark, access officer at Bucks County Council may be the right person to talk to.
- With no further matters arising the minutes of meeting no 23 were approved.
- With no matters having been raised at the AGM regarding the minutes of the 2010 AGM, those minutes were also approved.

4. The new committee

All present committee members agreed to continue with their current roles and were re-elected unopposed as follows:

- Chairman: Trevor Hussey
- Treasurer: Peggy Ewart
- Membership Secretary: Stephanie Morgan
- Minutes Secretary: Kevin Bennett
- Web Master: Peter Davis
- Walks for Health: Ron Collins

It was suggested that new committee member **Chris Miller** could be asked if he would be willing to lead a short walk each month.

5. Membership Secretary's report

Stephanie reported that 113 people have renewed their membership for 2012 to date. This includes any new members.

6. Treasurer's report

Peggy stated that prior to this meeting FONC had a balance of £1658 with £503 income and £147 outgoings since the last meeting. Peggy had attended the recent Commons and the Law seminar which was aimed more at owners of commons. One recommendation was that we should ask to see the registration documents for Naphill Common, **Steve** agreed to do this.

7. Grant application

Trevor has written to Richard Pushman requesting £400 of his community grant for veteran tree surveys, pond expertise, butterfly survey, bat survey, HAG farmstead survey, geological survey, etc.

We have received an invoice from the Chilterns Commons Project for half of the £250 we pledged in support. Peter reported that since the start of that project in October FONC have spent 114 manhours on working parties with 77 on National Trust land.

8. History and Archaeology Group

- The geophys survey of the farmstead is now on 3 March.
- John Morris' Naphill Common archaeology training day. The content will be similar to the course he runs at Piggots Wood. Seven people at the meeting wanted to attend but the current dates were not suitable. **Kevin** to obtain alternative dates. Gazette copy deadline is 15th Feb.
- It was agreed that invitations to attend should be extended to other FONC members subject to spaces, at £10 per head.

9. Future events

We discussed possible future events as follows:

- Pond survey. **Trevor** to contact Tony Marshall who advised Downley Common on their ponds.
- Butterfly survey/walk. Denis Dell.
- Bats survey, repeat.
- Geological walk, Jill Eyres.
- Mini Beast safari, repeat.
- Walk between the ponds.
- Midsummer picnic. An old gazette referenced a midnight ramble in 1937.
- Rogation day, beat the bounds.
- Fungal Foray
- Dawn chorus walk, before June.
- Walks for Health continue, dates are on the website.
- Working parties continue, first and third Sundays of each month up till mid March. Numerous people have said how appreciated our efforts have been.

10. Any other business

- Queens Diamond Jubilee beacon on 4th June. The Village Hall Committee suggested FONC should organise this. Need to register by 20 April to be in the handbook. We felt it was only viable if part of a bigger event. **Peggy** to investigate further.

- David has confirmed that The Black Lion, The Wheel and Bon Ami all want to distribute maps of the Common and have a map on the wall. They are happy to pay a nominal amount for an advert. We agreed to issue them free copies of our existing FONC leaflet from 3 years ago while we investigate leaflet dispensers (**Steve**) and produce a new map (**Kevin/Bob Dizon**). Philip confirmed that the map on the website is the most accurate to follow for the footpaths. **Steve** to investigate possibility of a grant.

Next committee meeting:
Monday 26th March 2012, 7.30pm, Poland House

Distribution:
Committee members
FoNC website

Minutes prepared by: Kevin Bennett, Secretary 16/2/12

Minutes approved by:
Trevor Hussey, Chairman Dated