

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MEETING NO. 8

18th November 2009

1. Attendees

Peggy Ewart, Philip Hussey, Peter Davis, Trevor Hussey, Stephanie Morgan, Kevin Bennett, Steve Rodrick, David Greenwood, Marek Pawlik, Ron Collins

2. Apologies

Michael Clarke, Daisy Leek

3. Previous minutes and matters arising

- The minutes of Meeting No 7 were accepted and approved.
- Matters arising from meeting No 7:
 - (a) Trevor has done the talk to The Beavers.
 - (b) Trevor wrote to Mr Fincken again, enclosing a return letter to us to make it easy to reply. However, there has still been no response. Richard Pushman has been copied in and asked for help. Write to Sir Edward Dashwood again. Action **Trevor**.
 - (c) The fungus foray was well attended and a great success.
 - (d) Trevor has contacted the School about becoming a "forest school". Awaiting school's action/decision.
 - (e) NT have done more scrub clearance around the heather. They are getting a specialist in to advise on a heavy trim to the Umbrella Tree to return it to near its original size.

4. Treasurer's report

We will need an auditor, **Peggy** to ask John Harris. Agreed our financial year will run till end of December. Current balance: £515.76 with an outstanding withdrawal of £25 to come out for the Village Hall.

5. Membership Secretary's report

Our membership stands at 106.

The second newsletter was distributed to all members, 8 by post, 15 on foot, rest by email. Produce next newsletter for early January before the 17 Jan Juniper walk and the AGM.

Stephanie would prefer all memberships to run Feb-Feb. An adjustment to rates needs to be agreed for those that joined later in the year.

6. Award

We were awarded the Highly Commended certificate in the Chilterns Enjoyment and Understanding Award. The website and newsletter received particular praise!

7. Future activities.

- 17 Jan 2010 - Save the Juniper walk by Andy McVeigh, suggested there should be a 30 min talk in the Village Hall prior to the walk.
- 22 Jan, 7.30 for 8pm – AGM. **All** to help set up from 7.15. **Peter to sort out a computer slide show**. Charge 50p for tea and biscuits. Programme to be:

- Review of the year by Trevor (20 mins)
- Questions and suggestions (5 mins)
- Treasurers Report and Membership report by Peggy and Stephanie (5 mins)
- Orchards by Steve (15 mins)
- Voting in the new Committee (10 mins)
- Red Kites by Cathy Rose (20 mins).
(total 1h15m, end at 9.15)
- Ideas for future events to Trevor, suggestions included Identifying Trees, repeat Fungal Foray, Veteran Trees, Food from the Common, Walks for Health repeat, Commoners and their rights. **Action All.**

8. Notice boards

We have received a £2000 grant from Natural England for the notice boards. The boards will need to contain the following:

- Map with footpath numbers and pond names
- Photos of animals/plants that can be seen on the Common
- An old photo showing how it used to look
- A location map showing relationship with Bradenham Wood and Downley Common
- Advice on right to roam and acknowledgement to Natural England's grant
- FoNC logo and space for upcoming event notices

Probably an A1 size panel with space to one side for notices, **Philip** to sketch a design.

Make 6 signs, locate at current locations (Hunts Hill La, Downley Rd, Chapel La, Forge Rd, Bradenham) and a spare.

9. Management Plan

Peter has done a great job so far but now needs help. Trevor, Steve and David agreed to join him in a Work Group. Need to develop a number of scenarios for future management. Plan should be presented and agreed at each AGM.

10. Any other business

- Stephanie was thanked for the tea and biscuits.

11. Next committee meeting

Wednesday 6th January 2010, 8.00pm, Poland House.

Distribution:

Committee members

FoNC website

Minutes prepared by: Kevin Bennett, Secretary

24/11/09

Minutes approved by:

Trevor Hussey, Chairman

.....
Dated