

Friends of Naphill Common
HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP
MINUTES for MEETING NO. 2

Monday 11th July 2011, 19.30 pm at Poland House.

1. Apologies for absence: David Greenwood, Trevor Hussey, Kate Davis
Attendees; Kevin Bennett (Chair), Evelyn Livett, Stephanie Morgan, John Morgan, , Peter Davis, Lyn Simmonds. Peggy Ewart, Philip Hussey
2. Minutes accepted from 10th May 2011
3. Matters arising:
 - Minutes distributed to FoNC Committee for discussion
 - FoNC website expanded with subfolders
 - Clumps, previously surveyed 1990/2004 so no new survey necessary. Gay Marshall of the NT has the documentation from these surveys. Need permission to reprint. Lyn to follow up. Origins of Clumps unknown , post medieval? Similar “Clumps” have been identified at other locations(Ashridge), possible tree nurseries?
 - Meeting re how to approach further research and document has not taken place. Date now set 18th July, Sunnyhill Stocking Lane @19:30
 - Lidar survey, no further news, cfwd to next meeting
 - Old Downley residents recollections, Lyn to investigate further and report back next meeting
 - Old residents recollections need to be put to paper and added to timeline. Interviews published must be with peoples permission. Evelyn already has some very interesting accounts re Vincents Farm but further investigations may be required with the Readings.
4. Active Projects- Archaeology
 - Walk the Common, 2 walks undertaken. 16 attendees for the first walk following the boundary with Bradenham Woods and ending at the “Farmstead”. Second walk, small turnout, as heavy rain, Fiveways and 2 dells. Third walk to include the Downley boundary to take place Thursday 28th July, meet 19:30 noticeboard Downley Road. Report of first two walks on website
 - Lead project still to be decided. Need to wait until foliage dies back in Autumn. Preferred choice at this stage, the Farmstead Possible some field walking can be undertaken

5. Active Projects – History

- Time Line project, Peter has produced the first draft. Check details for accuracy. Will have links to various sub folders on website. Need to limit recording only key dates as too much information would lead to capacity problems. Surveys to be included. Timeline to go live on FoNC website before next meeting in September

6. New Projects

- Documenting evidence, see matters arising
- Interviewing villagers, some recordings already available but require transcribing. Digital recorder, Steve maybe able to loan one or FoNC to purchase. Standard set of questions? Lunch Club at Village Hall possible forum. Philip to consult his (historian) son on interviewing procedures and standard questions
- Churchill tanks, made at Broomwade, Brooms archives to be investigated, if they still exist, Stephanie to follow up. Survey existing tank tracks, photographic evidence and villagers recollections. Naphill Common at war could be possible project.
- Victorian Fair, need to gather information/ photographs

7. Equipment required

- Monies can be authorised through FoNC
- Laser level, approx £35
- 50m tapes
- Trundle wheel
- Measuring angles
- Large scale maps
- Kevin to check with Steve on borrowing any of this equipment

8. Services required

- Lidar information and maps, if available, possible cost £150?
- BLIS survey of the Common, would have a lot of detail, does it cover this area? Peggy to report back
- Geophysics, could be expensive. Ian Kellaway, Risborough Countryside Group may be interested in investigating Farmstead. Lyn to ask Risborough group
- Historic Landscapes Characterisation may have already been undertaken for this area, if so use same format. Lyn to investigate

9. Newsletter

- To include newly formed HAG and its objectives
- Appeal for further help
- Include photos

10. AOB

- Wessex Woodland Management, employed by West Wycombe Estate. Trevor and Philip, as representatives of FoNC, and English Nature to attend meeting re possible tree felling and future conservation. Need to ensure program of work/ management plan respects SSSI.

Date of next meeting

- Monday 26th Sept, 19:30, Poland House

Minutes approved by:

Kevin Bennett, Group Chairman

Dated

Distribution:

FONC Committee members

HAG members

FONC website

Minutes – Stephanie Morgan