

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MEETING NO. 7

15th Sept 2009

1. Attendees

Peggy Ewart, Philip Hussey, Peter Davis, Trevor Hussey, Stephanie Morgan, Kevin Bennett, Michael Clarke, Daisy Leek, Steve Rodrick

2. Apologies

David Greenwood, Marek Pawlik, Ron Collins,

3. Previous minutes and matters arising

- The minutes of Meeting No 6 were accepted and approved.
- Matters arising from meeting No 6:
 - (a) Steve has reminded the National Trust to trim the Umbrella Tree.

4. Treasurer's report

Current balance: £485.76. (income £627.10, expenditure £141.34)

5. Membership Secretary's report

Our membership stands at 105.

The August Newsletter was distributed to all members, most on foot, 39 by email, 11 by post.

Feedback received seems positive. Aim for issues quarterly, invite the public to contribute.

Looking ahead to renewals of membership, Peter D to email registration form to Stephanie. **Action Peter D.**

6. Work parties

Little progress here as Mr Fincken (as tenant) has not replied to the letter requesting permission for us to work on the Common. Trevor to send another letter with SAE. **Action Trevor.**

Try to enlist Richard Pushman's help. **Action Peggy.** Neil Harris of National Trust is happy for us to clear back the scrub oak and bracken around the heathers adjacent to the umbrella tree.

7. Beavers

Fiona Waterhouse of Naphill Beavers has requested a talk on Naphill Common on 29th Sept. **Trevor** to present this.

8. Report on recent activities

- The Treasure Hunt didn't attract many people but still went ahead with 4 teams who had a good time. Maybe the event type or the date was the problem. Noted that the Midsummer picnic didn't attract many either. We need to target schools, Beavers, etc better for this type of family event.
- Heritage Day walk attracted 48, a very good turn out.

9. Future activities

- 28 October 10am - Fungus Foray. Led by Derek Schafer and Penny Cullingham. **Posters by Philip.**
- 17 Jan 2010 - Save the Juniper walk by Andy McVeigh, this is the optimum time to take cuttings. There is a good quality Juniper in a garden fronting onto the Common.
- 22 Jan, 7.30 for 8pm – AGM. We have booked the Village Hall. Agreed on Cathy Rose to present Red Kites for 20 minutes. **Steve to arrange. Daisy** to organise refreshments.
- Sculpture trail through the Common was suggested by Ronnie and Keith Wilkins
- Pond clearance working party hoped for.
- Path clearance working party. All to note blocked and overgrown paths.

10. Notice boards

We need six notice boards made from marine ply and oak posts. Richard Pushman has volunteered some of his fund. We'll have the FoNC logo on them. We will supply the labour but the panel needs to be professionally produced (map, text, pictures, etc). We aim to erect them before next spring. Old photos of the once-clear common would be nice, **Steve** to approach Angus.

11. Any other business

- The labelling of the footpaths has been completed by Philip and Peter. Several people have commented on how helpful they are.
- We have been loaned an Insect Survey from 1996-97 by Prestwood Nature. **Steve** to locate an electronic copy if possible.
- Aim to introduce membership cards next year
- We have received a request from Judy Whitehouse for us to cooperate in the application by Naphill and Walter's Ash School about its plan to become a 'Forest School'. **Trevor Hussey** to contact Judy and confirm that we are willing to do so.

12. Next committee meeting

Wednesday 18th November 2009, 8.00pm, Poland House.

Distribution:
Committee members
FoNC website

Minutes prepared by: Kevin Bennett, Secretary
27/9/09