

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 42
POLAND HOUSE, 8 SEPTEMBER 2015

Present: Chris, Neil, Trevor, Peter, Marek, Ron, John, Phillip.

Apologies for absence: Kevin, Lynn, Peggy, Sheila.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting: These were signed and approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:
 - a. Finance: the brought forward sum from 2014 should read £1355.50
 - b. Reference to Shiplake Pond, should read Shipwash Pond.
2. Treasurer's Report: In Peggy's absence the financial position was noted to have changed little since the last meeting. The relevant figures being as follows:

Income – subscriptions £564.20
Expenses - £446.33
Balance - £117.87
Brought forward from 2014 - £1355.50
Current balance - £1473.37
3. Working Parties: Peter reported that the Japanese Knotweed had been sprayed both by the estate and by us. As a consequence the plant looks dead but he suggested spraying again ourselves next year in the spring as soon as any growth is detected.

Peter advised that since the last meeting there had been 5 working and 2 brush cutting parties. Holly had been cleared around Shipwash Pond and H12 and the notice boards have been stained. He suggested that for the immediate future we should concentrate on clearing holly near trees that the contractors have not touched. Future work parties would be on the first and third Sundays through to Christmas.

On the 1st October Chiltern Rangers were leading work on the Common involving boys from the Grammar School in the afternoon and the Brownies following on in the evening. They will be working around Shipwash and Small Ponds. Committee members wishing to attend were advised to meet at 2pm in Forge Road.

Chris Miller reported that he had had a meeting with Gill Armshaw, Clerk to the Parish Council regarding Pickups Pond. Apparently the Council were arranging for contractors to do work on renovating the pond following research that had already been undertaken for which a report was awaited. When the contractors arrive on site, FONC will have representatives there to assist them.
4. Short and long walks: Chris advised that the (short) walks were going well, and that on his last walk attendance had been the best ever at 14.

Ron confirmed that his (long) walks were still proving popular and that the Christmas social evening has attracted 50 attendees.
5. AGM: Neil advised that he had not as yet been in touch with Nick Watson, but intended to do so immediately following his forthcoming holiday. If Nick was not available it was suggested that John Tyler should be approached or the owner of the bakery in Prestwood.

Chris agreed to book the village hall.
6. AOB:

Junipers

Trevor suggested that it was the time of the year for the Junipers to be planted out. It was agreed that this should be done early in October and that they needed to be located in an area that attracted some high degree of sunshine. It was proposed that only half of the plants should be planted this year with the balance being planted next year. Peter agreed to buy chicken wire and stakes and Trevor would lead on where the plants should be located. Ponds
It was agreed to make a start on clearing the ponds and that this should commence in November.

Fete

Trevor suggested that consideration should be given to FONC doing something different for the fete on our stall. Ron proposed a Silent Auction which he advised had proved successful at his daughter's School Fete. This was agreed.

Community Cinema

Ron advised of a Community Cinema Scheme which was to involve a number of local village halls including Naphill. Flyers were given to members and posters will be on display in the village. Attendance is free of charge, but a donation can be given.

Gazette

It was suggested that reference should be made in the October edition, to the planting of the Junipers and work to be undertaken on the ponds by the Rangers and Brownies.

Date of next meeting:

9 November 2015 at 7:30pm at Poland House.