

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING No 45 HELD 21ST MARCH 2016 7.30pm POLAND HOUSE

1. Apologies for absence.

Sheila Draper, Kevin Bennett, Lynn McMinn.

2. Present.

Chris Miller, Peggy Ewart, Ron Collins, Marek Pawlik, Neil McMinn, John Camp, Peter Davis, Philip Hussey, Trevor Hussey.

3. Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising not on the agenda.

Planting juniper with National Trust arranged for Tuesday 29th March, 9.45am.

4. Treasurer's report.

(1) Cash in bank on 22/02/16: £1,786.56

Income from subs: £340 + £79 (at meeting) = £419 (82 members.)

Expenditure: Insurance £135.24; TCV £38.00; Speaker £30.00; Website £29.99;

Other £19.25 – Total expenditure £252.48

(2) Membership of The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) has reduced the insurance premium from its previous level of £263.

(3) Letter from AGM speaker expressing thanks for money raised.

5. Membership secretary's report.

82 paid up members at present. Many still outstanding. A letter will be sent to these.

6. Working parties.

(1) 53½ man-hours, mainly clearing H21 and H5.

(2) Cleared scrub around Ash Pond.

(3) Planned for 2016: (i) Continued action against Japanese knotweed. (ii) Clear holly around New Pond. (iii) Continue to clear holly around footpaths and bridleways.

(4) "Clean for the Queen" Wed. 13th April. Meet 10am at Chapel Lane for Common.

7. Short and long walks.

Short walks continually attract reasonable numbers incl. 20 before Christmas.

Long walks doing well. 31 people at Penn Street.

8. FONC events for 2016.

(i) Fungus Group. (ii) Possible tree recognition (Trevor & Philip). (iii) Bat walk.

(iv) Mini-beast safari (John Tyler). (v) Possible Boxing Day walk e.g. Hughenden and back (Chris on holiday). (vi) Fete.

9. AOB.

(i) Speaker for next AGM? Possibly Prestwood baker?

(ii) Chainsaw: should we use one? Will involve insurance, clothing and training. Decided to investigate cost of insurance.

(iii) Fete: Silent Auction. We already have several offers of 10 prizes. More suggestions for more needed. E.g. Philip to offer a painting (portrait or house etc.) Help is needed on the day: Saturday 11th June 2016.

(iv) This may be the last time Poland House is available because Marek intends to retire. All present gave sincere thanks to Marek for his generosity over previous years. Possible alternative venues were discussed: e.g. The Wheel.

10. Next meeting.

Monday 16th May 7.30pm. Meeting place to be arranged if Poland House is not available.