

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING No 46 HELD 16 MAY 2016 7.30pm POLAND HOUSE

1. Apologies for absence.

Kevin Bennett & Lynn McMinn.

2. Present.

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

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

Agreed

4. Treasurer's report.

(1) Cash in bank on 22/04/16: £1,659.07

Income from subs: £439 (including payments from 6 continuing members and 2 brand new members)

Expenditure: £252.48

5. Membership secretary's report.

Update next meeting as Lynn absent.

6. Working parties.

(1) 41 ½ person-hours since last meeting: holly clearing on H2 finished and work started on H18.

(2) Renewed action against Japanese knotweed needed, as it was now knee height

(3) The NT Ranger, Joe, came to look at the Common, was impressed and offered his services and his own (insured) chain saw. We welcomed this help, but accepted that he could not do the fallen beech on his own and hoped that the Estate would tackle this in due course.

7. Short and long walks.

Both walks doing well with good numbers.

8. Phase II of Common work

A map showing the next projected phase of work was circulated and it was agreed that we would assist Wessex with leafleting if they wished, but that they should tell the householders along the Common of the next phase, rather than any communication coming from FoNC. Wessex said they would clear any rides we identified. It was noted that phase II would be close to the archaeological sites and that these should be marked as well as the veteran trees. We also asked whether the storage site would be as last time and whether they could tackle the fallen tree near Chapel Lane. Trevor kindly agreed to contact Wessex accordingly.

9. NapFest 2016

Silent auction: Ron read his list of auction promises and the details were to be included in the Fete programme. Details of FoNC activities would be available at the FoNC stand.

John and Neil agreed to set up and Philip, Lynn, Trevor and Chris would help on the day.

9. FONC events' programme for 2016.

(i) Fungus Group – TBC 23rd Oct.

(ii) Possible tree recognition/know your Common event (Trevor & Philip) – tbc 4/9.

(iii) Bat walk – TBC Chris to sort.

(iv) Mini-beast safari (John Tyler at £60) – 10/6/.

(v) Boxing Day walk e.g. Hughenden and back (Chris on holiday) - tbc.

10. FSC project

Trevor and Philip agreed to do the water testing requested by the FSC in order to test for the presence of newts.

11. AOB.

(i) Marek had an RAF High Wycombe 1945-75 history booklet, which he offered to scan and email to everyone.

(ii) A villager (Rob Slade) had been clearing an area of the Common on his own for some time and the stumps needed dealing with.

(iii) 2016 AGM date TBA – the new chairman of the Chiltern Common Conservancy Board declined Peggy's invitation to be our speaker. Peggy offered to ask the NT Head Gardener or Heritage Manager instead.

10. Next meeting.

Monday 26 September 7.30pm. Meeting place to be arranged (Wheel pub) if Poland House was not available.