

## FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

### MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING No 47

HELD 29 September 2016 7.30pm THE WHEEL pub

#### 1. Apologies for absence.

Kevin Bennett, Peggy Ewart & Lynn McMinn.

#### 2. Present.

Chris Miller, 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 as at 20/09/16.

(1) Cash in bank on 5/9/16 statement: £1,664.07

Income from subs: £514)

Expenditure: £462.98 (main expenditure since previous meeting = £144.55 on renovation, repair and fuel for the donated mower)

#### 5. Membership secretary's report.

Membership is 104 – 2 juniors. There would be an “ad” in the first 2017 Gazette for the New Year subs and membership.

**Action:** Lynn/Chris.

Agreed that it would be useful to have a “FoNC working here” sign to display at the working parties, to help people realise who is working and to promote membership.

**Action:** Ron. (Sheila to ask Brown Owl about their jumble sale sign – done)

#### 6. Phase II of Common work

There was no date for this yet, but Trevor was in contact with Wessex contractors, which had offered green marker paint for trees; the West Wycombe estate was hoping for funding to remove the fallen tree from Dew Pond TBA.

#### 7. NapFest 2016

The silent auction had raised £591.50 for the village hall funds, an excellent result and the chairman thanked especially Ron and the McMinnns for their work. Ron reported that he hoped to do the same again in 2017 and had already had the promise of a Wycombe Wanderers box to auction.

#### 8. FONC events' programme for 2016

The fungi walk remained as the last event of 2016.

NB since the meeting, Ron had kindly organised a Boxing Day walk from the village hall at 10.30 am.

#### 9 Working parties:

##### Activities.

(i) The Japanese knotweed was much reduced and that which has regrown appeared stunted and deformed. A near neighbour of the site had agreed to spray before the onset of winter.

(ii) Peter and others were still working on H18 (parallel to the power lines)

(iii) Ron and others had been strimming and mowing on Ladies Mile.

(iv) Other plans included holly clearing between Willow Pond and The Cloughs, clearance of Himalayan balsam by the Downley Rd entrance to the Common and tidying up around the map board at the end of Chapel Lane.

Since the last meeting, 91 man-hours had been put in, making 175 YTD.

#### **10. Short and long walks.**

Both walks doing well with good numbers; the short walks were rotating a series of 7 walks and the long walks continued with a variable programme (including the Boxing Day walk see above) .

#### **11. AGM**

Peggy had kindly arranged for a speaker from Hughenden Manor. The AGM was to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 in the village hall and would be announced in the Dec/Jan Gazette

**Action:** Chris. (Done)

#### **11. AOB.**

(i) The ponds were clogged up and none of them had any significant water. [Sometime after the meeting, PondNet's report showed that Pickup's Pond had tested positive for greater crested newts, but not Daisy Pond.] we agreed to make 2017 "The year of the ponds"

(ii) It was hoped that the Freshwater Trust would supervise the clearing out of Daisy Pond.

(iii) Chris had been to Blackpark to see the starfruit, which had been originally taken from Daisy Pond around 1993-5; it would be legitimate therefore to reintroduce it from this source.

(iv) Marek noted that the Woodland Trust had reported this year as having the lowest amount of tree planting since 2000.

#### **10. Next meeting.**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 7.30 pm in The Wheel pub