

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING held on Monday 14th January 2019 at The Wheel, Naphill

Apologies for absence from: Lynn McMinn, Ron Collins & Peggy Ewart.

Present: Chris Miller (chairman), John Camp, Peter Davies, Philip Hussey, Trevor Hussey, Marek Pawlik, Sheila Draper and Neil McMinn. **Observer:** Paul Hardinge

- 1. Action Points from previous Committee Meeting and Matters arising:** “WO” should have read “WI” .
- 2. Treasurer’s Report:** n/a, but Peggy agreed to circulate the 2018 accounts when they were finalised.
- 3. Membership Secretary’s report:** In Lynn’s absence, Neil noted that Lynn was trying to collect the 2019 subs asap. Membership in 2018 totalled 218 (or 219 depending on identifying payment by BACs).
- 4. Working parties:** See attached from Peter. Everyone who had helped was thanked, including Peter and Ron.
- 5. Walks:** Short walks had continued throughout with circa a dozen people. Long walks: 25-35 people were regularly taking part and the Boxing Day walk had attracted 20.
- 6. 2019 events:** this would be brought forward to the first new committee meeting following the AGM.
- 7. AGM:** Everything was in place, with the hall and speaker booked, Lynn to take subs on the night, Peter to organise the slide show and Chris to Chair the meeting. The event had been trailed in the 2018 Gazette and would be advertised in the first issue of 2019 and on the village Facebook site. . It was agreed to try and pay the speaker on the night **Action: Peggy**. All existing committee members agreed to stand for re-election, except Sheila, who was thanked for her work. New officers, including a Sec., would need to be appointed at the first Committee meeting following the AGM and a new signatory added to the current account. **Action: Chris and Peggy**
- 8. Common map(s):** a FoNC member had enquired about availability of an up-to-date waterproof map and Peter passed on his A5 laminated map for her. She had also asked about the signs and footpath marking posts. It was agreed that some of these had rotted or fallen with logging etc. and that renewal was necessary. The Estate had been enquiring recently how it might prevent dogs escaping onto private land used for hunting pheasants; the committee therefore thought that the Estate might help with new posts and markings on Common land to aid proper signage (but not so as to restrict the right to roam). Alternatively/additionally, the Chiltern Society, which assisted last time, might do so again. Bucks CC Bridleway officer might also be contacted to offer support. **Action: Chris**. Peter thought that he might have a map showing the original locations of the posts, for Chris. **Action: Peter**.
- 9. AOB:**
 - a)** Paul Hardinge noted that the parish was 125 years old in 2019, having been constituted on 12/12 and had its Council first formed on the 26/12. He sought ideas on how to celebrate this anniversary. It was agreed that *Beating the Bounds* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beating_the_bounds might be an interesting idea – it could be done across the whole parish by different groups and at different times and maybe involve schools too. The parish councillors were to have a meeting on 23/2 in the parish offices at 7 pm to discuss the celebrations and we were invited to attend. **Action: All**.
 - b)** Trevor mentioned that a PhD student was doing his thesis on Denner Hill stone and was seeking any information via the Open Spaces Society about how the stone had been found and cut and where it had been used historically. **Action: all please contact Trevor if you have any help or advice to offer.**
 - c)** Marek was concerned about how much exposure the Common might have to ash dieback, but was reassured by the small numbers involved.
 - d)** Neil confirmed that the Silent Auction would go ahead again in 2019, but with reserve prices on some of the lots and better advertising in the Gazette beforehand; bids would continue to only be accepted in person on the day.
- 10. Date of next meeting:** Monday 11/3/19 @ 7.30pm in The Wheel