## MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF HADDON WOOD COMMITTEE held at 6pm on Thursday 4th July 2013 at the Alhampton Inn

**Present:** Hilary Harrison (Chair), Rose Hubbard, Gert Schley, Nick Truman, Mark Curtis, Jo Curtis (Treasurer), Nell Hunter (Sec)

1	Apologies for absence: none	
2	Minutes of the last meeting signed by HH as a true record	=
3	Progression of wildflower meadow, pond and orchard: Wild flower meadow  The first hay crop has been taken by Sid Walters of Bearley Farm, Tintinhull. MC to contact him to see if he wants to take the next one too, in the autumn, before trying to find a more local taker  It was decided to sew Yellow Rattle after that, in September, followed by another cut, in July '14, once it has set seed and (if conditions are right) sew wildflowers after  GS to check if yellow rattle is toxic to cattle  NT to check what conditions break yellow rattle's dormancy  Both GS and NT to source seed	MC GS NT GS/NT
	O RH reported a conversation with Peter Westgate on the recent volunteer day, in which he offered to give a tour of his private wood and ponds to 2 or 3 people. RH to follow up and arrange O HH to check her contacts to establish which one has local knowledge of optimum site for the pond. O NH to follow up initial contact with Carymoor for either inhouse knowledge or name of local expert + Pond Conservation	RH HH NH
	<ul> <li>Orchard</li> <li>HH to check prices with Nick Mann, of Habitat Aid, for say 20/30 trees on MM106 stock (12' – 18' tall)</li> <li>GS to supply raspberries</li> <li>NH to consult West Bradley for advice on varieties, size etc</li> <li>RH to talk to Cider Apple Trees in North Cadbury</li> <li>GS to talk to Chew Valley Trees</li> <li>FHWC to plant, because so few in number, though FHW will be kept informed</li> </ul>	HH GS NH RH GS
	Priorities It was agreed that no single thing would take priority – though pond would need to be dug prior to next stage planting. W/f meadow and orchard will both be ongoing, as seasonally appropriate.  Control of Docks and Thistles (typo in Agenda) NT to scythe and MC to strim, one evening w/beginning 8 July + opening of AP6	
4	Reports: Funding update According to the WT we are "very close to our target of £20,000 and	

	should reach it soonwe should have no problem in reaching the target".  Ph Results After taking 12 samples, NT has established a pH of 7.5 – 8  Response to Constitution sent to Friends HH had had one response	
5	<ol> <li>A O B:         <ol> <li>Helen Parr (standing in until JB's replacement is appointed) has contacted HH, talking about WT rules and regulations:</li> <li>She will forward templates for risk assessments, which will be needed for everything the FHW will be doing. JC volunteered to complete them</li> <li>HP will check insurance cover on contractors ie Tom Yeoman digging the pond</li> <li>HP will need to know when and where pond is to be dug</li> <li>FHW need to put up 'Work in Progress' signs as appropriate</li> <li>HP passed on info about Landlife, in Merseyside, an organisation that creates wild flower meadows – www.wildflower.co.uk</li> <li>HP would like a copy of these minutes</li> </ol> </li> <li>It was agreed that the committee would try to cut down the current number of meetings by working more on email</li> <li>Date of next meeting TBA, but no later than first week in September.</li> </ol>	HP JC HP