

**MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF HADDON WOOD COMMITTEE  
held at 6pm on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at Yew Tree Cottage**

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

	MINUTES	Action
1	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> none	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> signed by HH as a true record	
3	<p><b>Matters arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>leasing Haddon Wood from the Woodland Trust</b> A long and detailed draft lease example had been sent through by the WT for Haddon. First impressions were that all the advantages lay with the WT – beyond the possible fund-raising advantages if the FHW were the lessees, rather than simply a ‘friends’ group - and after some discussion, it was agreed that NT would call Justin Milward, at WT, to ask for the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What, if any, would be the benefits to FHW of taking a lease?</li> <li>○ Running costs p/a?</li> <li>○ How much of the lease would be negotiable?</li> <li>○ What would our liabilities be?</li> <li>○ Will the WT contribute cash from its grant reserves?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Pond</b> TR has sent a purchase order through to Les Peel and MC will speak to the latter to get a more definite date for commencement of the work</li> <li>• <b>wildflower meadow</b> The Yellow Rattle is showing no signs of life in any of the test strips at Haddon, in NT’s variety of test plugs, or GS’s samples. HH to contact Nick Mann to establish whether this is typical of germination this year – winter too mild, or whatever. MC will mow the strips again.</li> <li>• <b>access points</b> MC has been asked to quote for removing the heap of stone by the Chapel so the kissing gate can be installed and – while he has the digger on hire and if Matt Peaster supplies the pipe - will sort out levels prior to infilling the slip-through at AP7 by MP</li> </ul>	<p>NT</p> <p>MC</p> <p>HH MC</p> <p>MC</p>
4	<p><b>Grant application to John Crossley (District Cllr)</b> NT will complete the paperwork, including the request for a brush-cutter, and drop the finished article off with HH for forwarding.</p>	<p>NT</p>
5	<p><b>AGM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>agenda</b> will comprise:</li> </ul>	

- Chair's report HH
  - Treasurer's report JC
  - Possible lease NT
  - Election of officers
- **venue**  
JC to book the skittle alley at The Manor, Ditchheat and confirm HH
  - **election process**  
Existing Committee members are required to stand down and whilst all are willing to stand again, anyone else wishing to stand will be invited to do so at the AGM. Each committee member will need to be nominated, proposed and seconded and if there are more than 7 candidates, there will be a vote. Once the committee has been elected, officers will be nominated and elected in the same way. JC
- 6 **Thistle day** HH
- There is an urgent need to address the thistle problem again, so HH will email FHW, requesting assistance to cut, pull and/or dig on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> May (10am-12noon) HH
- 7 **AOB**
- **Holly guards** have arrived and will be installed on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 10am – 12noon.
  - RH reported that a small collection of used **dog poo bags** was building by the Jacob's Lane gate on West Lane. It wasn't known whether this was an oversight, or deliberate, but HH volunteered to collect them if they hadn't already been removed
  - On a happier note, JC reported that a **generous donation** of £520 has been received by FHW
  - JC also reported that the announcement in the Daily Telegraph reporting the sad death of local resident, **Bill Hutton**, on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, at the age of 94, further stated that, rather than send flowers, donations should be sent to the FHW