

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF HADDON WOOD COMMITTEE

held at 6pm on Monday 9th March 2015 at White Chimneys

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

| | MINUTES | Action |
|---|--|----------|
| 1 | Apologies for absence: None | |
| 2 | Minutes of the last meeting signed by HH as a true record | |
| 3 | Matters Arising: | |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HH to chase up Bristol Water re cost of retaining the trough above the pond (still connected) | HH |
| | Benches: | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HH to contact Stewart Gould to order pieces for picnic bench | HH |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HH to contact Roger Hutton re Bill Hutton's memorial (ie inscription on the above?) | HH |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">MC suggested that in addition we could have a number of simpler benches around the site and will get some rustic, tannelised, softwood timber (remembering to claim back the expense) to make up an example for consideration | MC |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">JC asked if we have used all of Bill Hutton's legacy and HH replied that the WT had paid for the fruit trees and our only expenses in the orchard had been stakes, guards etc. Any monies left over would be put towards his memorial, in whatever form that takes (ie engraving?) | |
| 5 | Pond | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">It was decided that the pond needs more time for soil settlement and wildflower growth and it was agreed that we need to renew the tape barrier (straighten stakes and double rows of new tape). MC to source tape | MC |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">It was agreed to spend a couple of hours on 28th March, reinstating the tape and digging thistles. | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HH to email FHW asking for anyone available to help. GS to organise work party on the day | HH GS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HH to draft new 'Keep Off' signs | HH |
| 6 | Orchard | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Planting is complete, though a few stakes need straightening | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">NT suggested replacing the guards on CDs trees with the larger mesh and mesh generally needs pegging down | NT |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">NT said cherries would need formative pruning | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">It was agreed that this could be done on the same day as the remedial work round the pond on 28th March | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">NT to produce orchard plan | NT |
| 7 | Wildflower areas | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">It was agreed to leave the wildflower areas for another year to see what germinates naturally (or whether any of the | |

- sown Yellow Rattle appears)
 - MC will ask Chris Barber if he will mow these areas later in the summer

MC

- 8 Dog Poo**
It was agreed that we should rotate a variety of signs to encourage people to pick up. HH to circulate possible new signs

HH

- 9 Water aid**
 - WT sees no need for any form of life-saving equipment near the pond – and possibility of vandalism cannot be ignored – and it was agreed to raise the matter with them again once the new manager is in post
 - NH to circulate photos of smaller device, as used at Durslade Farm, Bruton

NH

- 10 Fund raising**
 - It was decided to have the Open Gardens on 7th June this year so as not to clash with either Ditchheat fete on 21st June
 - Feasibility of barbecue on site discussed:
 - Cost of portaloo? MC to check
 - NT advised that social/fund-raising is not an ideal mix
 - It was agreed that all would think of more ideas for our next meeting – particularly with an eye to the future ie costs if/when we take out a lease. NH to check back through minutes re the decision-taking process on whether or not to take up charitable status

HH

MC

All

NH

- 11 Dates for the coming year**
AGM – Wednesday, 13th May at the Alhampton. This year we should advertise it on both the gates to the wood and on the blog

- 12 Accounts**
JC reported balance of £2982.46

- 13 A O B**
 - Joanna Miln had asked JC if we could mount a photographic exhibition in Ditchheat church on 21st June
 - MC had put 7 tons of hardcore down in the Jacob's Lane gateway in an attempt to sort out levels/flooding issues, but the work had been destroyed the following day by a lorry parking there. It was agreed that we should source two large lumps of stone, one for each end of the opening, to keep lorries out.