

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF HADDON WOOD COMMITTEE

Held on Thursday 18th June 2019 at White Chimneys

Present: Mark Curtis, Jo Curtis, Hilary Harrison, Rose Hubbard, Nell Hunter, Gert Schley

MINUTES

Action

1 Apologies for absence: WS

2 Minutes of the last meeting signed by HH as a true record

3 Matters arising –

- **LANTRA training** – HH to ask if WT will pay for Chris Archer and possibly Alf
- **Becoming a Charter Branch** – JC reported that the Tree Charter has been drawn up after consultation with 80 groups, whittled down to 13 principals including the WT. At the time of the meeting JC had not been able to speak to Sarah Shorley about the ramifications of becoming a Charter Branch, but had left her contact details and will report back when she hears anything.

HH

JC

4 Roundhouse

After much discussion it was agreed that we do want one, but not yet and without more research. Either way it was agreed that, whilst we recognise the need for capital expenditure (as otherwise asking local people to continue to fundraise is becoming unjustifiable) the reported cost of £10,000 - £12,000 was far too high. It was thought that, using our own resourcefulness, we should be able to achieve a creditable result for a much lower investment. MC made the point that it is still very early days for such a requirement and JC was concerned that we not make things too comfortable for local drug dealers.

5 Mower attachment

The growing problem of blackthorn encroachment was discussed and the immediate solution proposed that MC should investigate an attachment for the bigger tractor to cope with both horizontal and vertical cutting (thought to cost about £1500)

MC

6 Beehive

Margy is talking to the WT about agreeing to the erection of a beehive for wild bees in the wood. The committee agreed to fund two, subject to WT agreement, as above.

7 Haddon Wood Open Day

Will be 11.00 – 3.00pm on Sunday, 22nd September. Ideas put forward include: -

- **Treasure hunt** – local groups to make and hide them (possibly displaying them for longer than just the day)
- **Willow Workshop** – with items made from willow for sale
- **Games** – such as Bag-a-Bug

- **Portaloo**
- **Barbecue**
- **HW merchandise**

JC would try to persuade Sarah Shorley to bring a WT/Tree Charter stand and judge the Treasures Hunt. **JC**

The event will be promoted in the FTN, local schools, Tesco's etc. **JC**

JC will email all with a list of possible participants and asking for additional suggestions. **JC**

8 Wildflowers – held over until WS can attend.

9 Request for a donation from the FTN
Was agreed in principle and set at £30. **JC**

10 A O B

- It was agreed to have recycled tree ties (50p for 40), tubes (50p each) and one tree stake (as an advert for more) on the Alhampton fête HW merchandise stand **RH**

- Agreed to sell the unused, bigger stakes to Pam at £2.50 each
- Thanks given to MC, RH and JC for all the trimming/pruning done and the resultant impressive dead hedge round the willow building
- JC to ask the WT for more loppers **JC**

- It was agreed to leave hand-cutting of intrusive blackthorn until MC had tackled it and thereafter asking both the Friday crew and the Saturday de-tubing group to take it on if necessary **MC/All**

- Noted that there had been another car break-in between 1.30 and 2.30 on Thursday 13th June. Door damage reported to the police
- Noted that *National Tree Day* will be on 30th November (at the end of *National Tree Week*) and JC proposed teaching lantern making for an early evening parade. They could then be used on the Shepton Lantern group day in December **JC**

- MC reported he had still not received a p/order from PA for tree guard disposal, and took 2 loads last time. Average cost of a load is £80 HH to chase **MC**
HH