

## MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF HADDON WOOD COMMITTEE

held at 5.30pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at White Chimneys

**Present:** Mark Curtis (PR), Jo Curtis, 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: -**

#### **Leasing – PC response and our decision**

HH reported that the PC had recognised the information that FHW are not going to lease the wood after all, but made no offer to take it on instead.

#### **Removal of tree guards –**

Paul Allen had said that this is usually done in February, but it was agreed that we would keep to a rolling programme of removal, from February onwards if both weather and manpower allows (say, four people at a time - the committee, plus a few specified individuals where possible) from any trunk that seems too tight.

- HH to contact PA to ask if the WT is happy for MC to take the tubes to commercial recycling (and reimburse him), or if they have a different solution **HH**
- HH to email all tasked with removal to ask that any last minute cancellations be notified **HH**
- NB: Risk Assessments to be filled out each time

#### **Orchard re-staking –**

A variety of situations exist, so it will be necessary to go prepared with all possible kit i.e. hessian mats, stakes, guard fabric, tree ties etc.

- NT and GS to carry out a recce on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December, numbering each tree as per the plan and making notes next to those that need attention **NT/GS**
- NT to email all with a date for work in the following week, plus, say, Margy and Alf. **NT**
- NT to source well-rotted bark mulch **NT**

#### **Insurance – Alf**

HH to ask Alf if he wants to continue strimming and brushcutting. If so, we will insure him. (NT's costs £18 p/mth) **HH**

#### **Training – First Aid**

Six committee members re-qualified.

/

#### **4 Wildflower areas**

PA had been rather negative about the long term chances of establishing wildflower areas, because phosphorous binds to clay, so our soil is just too rich. It was agreed to leave things as they are and see what happens with the yellow rattle that flowered this year and last. It was noted that anyone is at liberty, even so, to spread wildflower seed, just in case.

#### **5 Footpaths -**

It was agreed that we wanted to keep a mixture of wide rides with meandering paths. HH to email FHW saying that if members have any views, they should come to the AGM and state them. MC agreed to deal with the blackthorn that has been encroaching on some of the boundary paths, but the day after the meeting it was noticed that the WT's contractors had already dealt with the problem.

**HH**

#### **6 Plans for next year – activities/fundraisers to attract wider support –**

It was agreed to hold no major fundraiser in 2018, but that we should: -

- Take a stall at the Rendezvous in Ditchat Village Hall (second Tuesday in the month), selling Haddon Wood merchandise
- Take a stall at Alhampton Village fete, ditto above
- Have a table in Ditchat on the day of their open gardens, selling their tickets(?) and our merchandise

It was agreed that RH would research what new merchandise could be achieved with a budget of, say, £250, including dog poo bags and holders, tea towels and hessian/jute bags

**RH**

#### **7 Accounts: -**

Balance £8,949.55

**JC**

#### **8 A O B**