



Minutes of the Findern Footpaths Group meeting held at Murray's, 25 Main Street, Findern, on Wednesday 4th July 2018 commencing at 7pm.

Present:

Heather Hall (Chair), Joan Tidy, Anne Evans, Sheila Hughes, Liz Lenton, Pat Charge, Frances Prockter, Rod Bassett, Julia Cross, Philip Cross, Ian Humphries and Stephen Parnell

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Jan Ashford, Janet Macdonald, Steve Tiso and Margaret Tiso.

2. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the Footpaths Group meeting held on Wednesday 6th June 2018 were circulated and approved as a true record.

3. Finance and Fundraising

Finance

Joan stated statements had been received and the accounts balanced. An unauthorised DD payment of £24 had been made to Devmac on 1st June. Joan contacted Nat West who cancelled the direct debit and stated that the money would be back in our account at the end of the next working day. Joan also contacted Devmac who apologised for not rectifying this error last year (the direct debit should have been on Findern Parish Council's account not Findern Footpaths Group).

Payments: DD £19.19p to 123-reg for old .org domain name renewal for one more year (as agreed in the meeting held on 26th March 2018). This direct debit will now be cancelled.

Receipts: 0.21p interest on the reserve account

Current account stands at £851.01p, reserve account stands at £5022.60p

Philip stated £22 was given in donations at the village fete.

Philip has now taken over as treasurer.

4. Reports and Evaluations from other meetings/events attended

i) Visit to Hoe Grange Quarry Saturday 17th June 2018

Heather attended and had a great time although she didn't see many butterflies as it was cloudy. She spoke to a man from Longcliffe Quarry who supply the limestone chatter for putting on top of the banks. He states he has built several butterfly banks and offered to visit and offer us some advice. It was agreed to invite him to come and have a look at our bank so Heather agreed to act as liaison.

Resolved: This item is to be added to the next agenda for update

ii) Findern Fete Saturday 30th June 2018

Heather thanked everyone who helped set up the gazebo and display the information boards which had been very expertly laid out by Philip and Julia. Group members then manned the gazebo and spent a very hot afternoon meeting lots of visitors. The quiz was very well received with a total of 30 children taking part.

5. Project Planning/Event Planning

i) Butterfly Bank Creation Cardales Meadow

As discussed under item 4. Reports and Evaluations

ii) Butterfly Transect Rota

Rota completed to the end of September

iii) Group 20 Year celebration Saturday 13th October 2018 11am – 3 pm

Heather will bring a final list of who to invite at next meeting. She will look into having some proper invitations printed with our logo and RSVP to Pat to collate numbers

Resolved: This item is to be added to the next agenda for further discussion

6. Public Rights of Way Reports

Porter's Lane/Airport Way gate way relocation

Heather has emailed Lynn Taylor, footpaths officer at DCC, who stated that there must be no obstruction to the right of way. Members agreed that the relocating of the gate would in no way obstruct the right of way as the stile would still be easily accessible. Heather will liaise with Mr Parnell and if required members would be happy to attend a site meeting to see what is proposed.

Resolved: This item is to be added to the next agenda for update

Philip states he has added more pages to the website to record our activities as they happen to keep residents informed. Most of the stiles and A frames have been cleared but those on Airport Way and Little Derby Way still needed doing. As the foliage will keep growing it was suggested that when we walk our adopted footpaths we should take a pair of secateurs with us to deal with some clearance then and there.

Heather states she has received several complaints from residents re other walking/running groups way marking their routes by spraying bright pink dots on seats and signposts. One such group is Derby Nomads so Philip will email and ask if such marking is really necessary as there are already way markers in place.

7. Wildlife Site Management

i) Hours of work carried out by the payback team

Heather reports that the team came out 23rd June and carried out a total of 36 hours unpaid work for and on behalf of the community. She states the team will be out again on the 7th and 28th.

ii) Hours of work carried out on the canal towpath

A total of 32 hours was spent on the towpath mainly clearing Himalayan Balsam and litter picking

iii) Grass management Cardales Meadow

It was agreed that the meadow should be mown in August, left lying and turned for seeds to drop before being taken for hay. The banks should also be mown in August. It is not known who would want the hay so Julia will ascertain whether Mr Barker would want it and Heather will ask Ian and Caroline

Resolved: This item is to be added to the next agenda for update

iv) Proposal for a water butt in Cote Close Bird Sanctuary

During discussion most members don't think it's necessary, however it was agreed that the watering should not be left to Heather as she is closest so a rota was drawn up for the next 2 weeks:

Thursday 5th Heather, Saturday 7th Philip, Monday 9th Pat, Wednesday 11th Ian, Friday 13th Rod, Sunday 15th Heather and Tuesday 17th Stephen and Frances

Heather will fill the aquaroll and leave it in her garden to be collected.

Ian stated that he needed something to put bird feeders on and Heather stated that there was a big branch fallen off a tree on Priory Way. She will ask Mr Hicklin if we can have it transported to the Sanctuary

It was agreed that an insect hide should be built in in the vicinity of the bird hide.

v) Need to improve storage facilities behind the parish rooms

It was reported that Richard will be taking some of their stuff from their garage which should make more room in there. It was also decided to move the gazebo to the outside storage room at Murrays which would leave more room in the other garage. Members will shortly be moving the pallets to construct the insect hotels which would leave more room in the yard itself

vi) Future work parties

Wednesday 11th, 7pm – 9 pm move materials for insect hotels, Wed 18th – 10 am – 12 noon ragwort removal Cardales Meadow, Wednesday 25th 10am – 12 noon and Wednesday 1st August 10 am – 12 noon, tasks to be decided nearer the day.

8. Wildlife Database

A local resident reported seeing a couple of White Letter Hairstreak butterflies in the two elm trees just past Clovermead on Common Piece Lane. Heather reports a dead mole on the 28th June on the steps to causeway, a female pheasant in the wildflower meadow on the 28th June and a baby badger on Priory Way on the 13th June. There is also a family of hedgehogs in a garden on Hillside.

9. Any other business

Group barbecue Sunday 26th August 2018 at 4pm
This item is to be added to the next agenda for final arrangements to be made.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: The next meeting will be held in Findern on Wednesday 1st August 2018 commencing at 7pm and will be chaired by Heather Hall.

Signed.....Dated.....