



**Minutes of the Findern Footpaths Group meeting held at Findern Methodist Chapel, Lower Green, Findern, on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 commencing at 7pm.**

**Present:**

Heather Hall (Chair), Joan Tidy (Secretary), Philip Cross (Treasurer), Julia Cross, Anne Evans, Janet Macdonald, Liz Lenton, Sheila Hughes, Frances Prockter and Stephen Parnell

At the start of the meeting Heather said she had received a letter from Steve saying that as he is unable to give more time to the group due to ill health he is resigning for the time being. We will miss Steve and wish him a speedy recovery so we can welcome him back when his health improves

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Jan Ashford, Ian Humphries, Rod Bassett and Pat Charge

**2. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting**

Minutes of the Footpaths Group meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 were circulated and approved as a true record.

**3. Finance and Fundraising**

**Finance**

Philip reported that the balances are as follows:

Current Account	£781.01p
Cash	£7.00p
Investment Account	£5023.02p
Total in Hand	£5,811.03p

He states that he has all the signatures bar one to open the account with Santander so the transfer should be completed by the next meeting.

**4. Reports and Evaluations from other meetings/events attended**

No other meetings or events attended

**5. Project Planning/Event Planning**

**i) Butterfly bank creation Cardales Meadow**

On 30<sup>th</sup> August 6 tons of limestone chatter was delivered **free of charge** by Longcliffe Quarries and members spread 4 tons of it onto the butterfly bank. A bit more work is needed round the edges before we start planting. Ken will be bringing some plug plants to the celebration in October and these are big enough to be planted out straight away. He suggested we buy plugs (such as Birds Foot trefoil for Common Blue and Dingy Skipper, Wild Strawberry for Grizzled Skipper, Doves Foot or Cut Leaved Cranesbill or both for Brown Argus and Scabious of any sort to provide nectar for all butterflies) in the autumn and that members who are able pot them on and look after them over the winter to plant out in March. **(Any member who has space and is happy to do this please let Joan know so she knows how many she can order).** Liz says she has Scabious in her garden and Joan will contact Naturescape re ordering the other plants. Ken also suggests it may be worth buying some Alder Buckthorn whips to

attract the Brimstones. Although information about the bank is on the website it was agreed that we should erect a sign next to the bank informing visitors what it is for. Heather states she was talking to Steve about whether it would be advisable to plough up the meadow and start again. It was agreed that something needs to be done to improve it but that we should obtain advice from an expert before we proceed. Heather says she will contact Andy Laxton at Derbyshire Countryside Service who has advised us in the past.

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

**ii) Butterfly transect rota**

Completed to the end of this year's transect

**iii) Group 20 year Celebration Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018 12 noon-2 pm**

Julia has researched party catering at Sainsbury's and Marks and Spencer and a selection of sandwiches, salad and quiches would cost £3 per head. (If we also provide finger food this would cost another £1 per head and small desserts would add another 75p per head making a total cost of approx. £4.75 per head). If we add Prosecco and soft drinks this would add another £1 per head so still within the £6 per head budget. It was decided to go with a selection of sandwiches and quiches (to include those suitable for vegetarians) and salads but not to provide finger food. Members will provide a selection of desserts and Ian is making the cake. The food should then work out at approx. £3 per head. It was agreed to offer a glass of Prosecco on arrival and then glasses to be topped up for the toast and cake cutting. Joan will shop around for the Prosecco and soft drinks when numbers attending are known. (Heather sent out 81 invitations and so far 38 acceptance replies have been received). Replies were asked to be sent by 13<sup>th</sup> September so we should know numbers by then. Frances will see if she can borrow glasses and plates and Julia reports that Jan has some red paper table cloths. Cutlery and serviettes will also be needed so Heather will ask Ian where they got theirs for the barbecue. Liz and Sheila will look at making table decorations when the number of tables needed is known.

**Resolved: This item is to be added to the next agenda for final arrangements to be made**

## **6. Public Rights of Way Reports**

**i) Porter's Lane/Airport Way gate way relocation**

No further update at this time

**ii) PROW maintenance plan**

Members are to walk their footpaths before the next meeting and note what work needs doing so a maintenance plan can be worked out

## **7. Wildlife Site Management**

**i) Hours of work carried out by the Payback Team – to include discussion re suitable tasks**

Heather reports that the team came out on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September and carried out a total of 78 hours unpaid work for and on behalf of the community.

**ii) Hours of work carried out on the canal towpath**

10 hours spent mainly litter picking

**iii) Future work parties**

This Thursday (6<sup>th</sup>) 2-4 pm members are to carry on with the butterfly bank. Work parties will continue to be held on Thursdays from 10 am to 12 noon for maintenance work on footpaths

Heather states she thinks that Bat Box checks are to be carried out on 15<sup>th</sup> September; Joan will email Steve and Alan to confirm.

## **8. Website/Wildlife Database**

Philip states he has received an email from our web provider offering to make the website more secure for a cost of about £30 per year. All agreed that this was not necessary at this time

## **9. Any other business**

**Group Christmas Meal**

Several venues had been circulated to all members. During the meeting members voted to try Le Bistro Pierre in Friargate, Derby and the date chosen is Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.15 pm. Julia will contact the restaurant to make the booking.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

***Resolved: The next meeting will be held in Findern on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 commencing at 7pm and will be chaired by Heather Hall***

***Signed.....Dated.....***