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## **Notes of Meeting of the Friends of Badock's Wood held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30 p.m. The Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, Southmead, BS10 5PY**

Present:

Tony West (Chair), Geoff Perrett (Treasurer), Frances Robertson (Secretary), Graham Mullan (Website), Siân Parry (Minutes Sec), Mike Townsend, Christine Callanan, Alex Minshull, Matt Hobbs. Guest: Jemima Suffolk PCSO

Apologies were noted from: Linda Wilson (Management Plan Co-ordinator), Alan Aburrow (Archivist), Martin Firth

### **1. Jemima Suffolk: Role of the Neighbourhood Policing Team**

Jemima gave a short overview of her role. She is based at Southmead Police Station shortly moving to the Wayfarer Pub Site on Pen Park Road. She talks to users in the Wood regularly and ensures there is a police presence there. She carries out joint patrols with the Fire Brigade following the arson attack on the Ranch. Vandalism/arson has reduced with term starting and the colder weather. The best way to keep in touch with her and her colleagues Lee and Thomas was by email – her email address is [jemima.suffolk@avonandsomersetpolice.uk](mailto:jemima.suffolk@avonandsomersetpolice.uk)

### **2. Community Impact Management Plan Update**

#### **a) Pond**

Tony described the sub-group's proposals for altering the shape of the pond. A work party will need to be organised to carry out the works. The Group discussed Joe McKenna's role and agreed that it would go forward with the 'minimalist' approach put forward by Tony rather than a major revamp. The works will be carried out this winter.

**Action: Siân to arrange a meeting with Joe, Sarah and Jerry to discuss with the sub-group.**

#### **b) Steps**

Graham reported on Linda's work regarding the steps revamp as she was unwell. Joe's input would cost approx £1200 inc materials and Linda was waiting for clarification regarding his role/status next financial year (the project would be carried out 2016/17).

Frances said that she'd heard that Skanska (sponsors for BGC) had a corporate vol scheme. The Group was keen for them to be involved if they could provide appropriately skilled workers. The Group would also apply for Lottery funding.

**Action: Frances to follow up with Bristol 2015 who are liaising with Skanska and if not able to help to consider applying for Lottery funding. Linda to contact Joe McKenna re his involvement.**

#### **c) Benches**

All benches were completed on time and to budget !

There was a small underspend which can be used to move another chestnut section to the Triangle for Andy to carve. The chestnut needs to be moved anyway as silt and debris were building up behind it.

**Action: Linda to discuss with BCC and decide on timescale ??**

#### **d) Practical Work Parties**

Siân and Graham reported that she and Linda had discussed the priorities for practical conservation in the Wood. Siân was happy to lead on developing a work programme for such activities including ongoing work such as litter picks, bluebell management etc. First aid training would need to be sought for work leaders.

**Action: Sian to draw up a draft programme and discuss with Committee/Mike re litter picks;  
Sian to contact BCC re first aid training.**

#### **e) Species Monitoring**

Sian and Mike reported on the bird monitoring being carried out by the FOBW Bird Group, including fortnightly surveys and consideration of bird box installation. Mike said he was liaising with AWT re the latter and they were meeting with Matt Collis on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct. The Group will also liaise with the Hawk and Owl Trust at the Owl Prowl in Oct regarding replacing the owl boxes. Matt suggested that there are free bird box schemes and he was happy to help out with the monitoring. Frances said she could ask Jane (Bat Trust) about the possibility of installing bird boxes.

**Action: Mike to feedback on meeting with Matt Collis; Frances to ask Jane about installing bird boxes**

Mike also mentioned he'd been in touch with the Westbury Wildlife Park to arrange access for bird watching. They are happy for a small group to visit on an occasional basis. The Group agreed that it'd be good to expand the bird group and involve more people in visiting the WWP.

**Action: Siân to send Frances a short summary for an email to be sent to members**

Frances said she was attending a meeting with young people in Southmead on 5<sup>th</sup> October and she could ask them if they'd be interested in getting involved with projects in the Wood, e.g. bird box making etc.

**Action: Frances to feed back from her meeting and liaise with Mike and Siân**

Siân reported on butterfly surveys she'd carried out on a weekly basis over the summer- she would write these up over the winter. She and Mike had also applied for riverfly training run by BART which would give us a better idea of the Trym's water quality.

Grassland Management: Siân, Tony W and Tony S had done 2 condition assessment surveys in Spring and Summer- these would be written up and then followed up in future years to monitor the quality of the grassland. Siân had been on scything training and it raises issues about the costs of training vols, obtaining tools etc so she would discuss with Jerry about how the meadow is cut and managed in future. Power tools may be a possibility in future and raking could be done during the winter as a means of improving the habitat.

**Action: Siân to discuss meadow management with Jerry and to write up surveys**

### **3. Project Update**

Frances gave an update regarding the Green Hidden Treasures project:

- Publicity money was used for the latest leaflet;
- Celebration on 20<sup>th</sup> Sept including murmuration project funded by Bristol Green Capital, AWT, Bristol Avon Rivers Trust, Mutty Professor etc.. attending

### **4. Other events and activities**

Owl Prowl on 8<sup>th</sup> October;  
Tree Dressing 13<sup>th</sup> December

### **5. Finances/Fundraising**

Frances gave an update on finances to date- £7080 grants in total of which £750 was allocated for events (£305.75 spent so far); £5540 spent on benches; £198 on QR Trail (along with previous Lottery money underspend of £675). A small underspend was left (including donations collected at events) from which Frances suggested making a donation to BNS as they had been invaluable helping with walks and events over the summer. Mike suggested donating £50 to BNS from the FOBW fund rather than from donations per se- **this was agreed.**

Geoff said that the FOBW account was currently in credit of £1000 which was not being used. Alex suggested **and it was agreed** that this should be used for match funding as and when the Group applied for grant funding as this was expected from funders currently.

**6. Notes approved from last meeting**

**7. Matters Arising not already on the Agenda**

None

**8. Any Other Business**

- 8.1 Hugh Holden to visit with his painting at Dec meeting-agreed
- 8.2 Mike- BART had given us 3 litter picking kits; Geoff- 9 altogether in storage; Frances had 5 hoops
- 8.3 Frances- LNR celebration- Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. Frances, Alex, and Christine would attend
- 8.4 Love Parks training event at UWE if anyone interested
- 8.5 QR trail- Frances has finished the draft and it will be published in time for the celebration
- 8.6 Bat walk- 25 people attended
- 8.7 Tony-Lake End entrance works- possibility of free trees from Richard Bland. Work party to be organised early Spring
- 8.8 Geoff- has a T-shirt available. Life Cycle had an event planned in the Wood. We still need an extra signatory for cheques.

**9. Meeting Dates**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st December at 7.30 p.m. at The Greenway Centre