

Friends of Barnfield Sandbeds

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Wednesday 26th October 2011

Present

Marion Goodrich	Emma Pugh
Phil Goodrich	Dil Griffiths
Joyce Bradley	Lyn Griffiths
Glen Sibley	Gareth Griffiths
Edna Sibley	Brenda Luck
Carole Danbury	Rob Cook
Julian Hayes	

Apologies received from:

Pat Davies	Howard Medlicott
Geoff Tanner	Hayden Baugh-Jones

Minutes of last meeting

Agreed and adopted: proposed by Dil Griffiths, seconded by Glen Sibley.

Election of officers

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the A.G.M. The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary indicated that they were willing to stand for a further term and were re-elected unopposed, proposed by Dil Griffiths, seconded by Glen Sibley and Carole Danbury. The Chairman enquired if anyone felt that each officer's term should be limited e.g. to 3 years: there was no enthusiasm for this suggestion.

SSDC update

Marion had received an Email from Howard to say that there was no news regarding the pond project. She had received an Email from Pat to say that he was seeking permission from SSDC to use the same contractors as last time for work on the pond and birch meadow; Pat leaves the Council's employ by 30th November. Pat's plan for rustic-style decking for the pond area, to facilitate pond-dipping etc., was circulated.

Events at Barnfield Sandbeds

The Bat Walk which took place after the last meeting on 28th September was well attended. No bats were detected, probably because the timing was not quite right, but everyone enjoyed the beautiful evening.

The tree planting afternoon on Friday 7th October with St Mary and St Chad's school was very successful. Children, teacher and adult helpers were enthusiastic and the children clearly enjoyed their visit to the Sandbeds. A Fungus Forage led by Susan Shanks will take place on Sunday 30th October, 10 a.m.

A Badger Talk will take place on 23rd November, 7.30p.m.

Glen has prepared leaflets and posters for the Fungus Forage and Badger Talk. Joyce borrowed a white board to advertise these events in the village centre but sadly her calligraphic efforts were washed away by the rain; she will try again with a poster.

Report from Dil

Dil proposes to speak to Explorers, Scouts and Cubs and their leaders about what they require for badges etc. which may be relevant to Sandbeds activities. Dil and Phil are to attend a leaders' meeting in November.

Bat Update

Eight bat houses and one bat box are ready for erection. Phil, Dil and Glen propose to tackle this after the Fungus Forage, aided by Phil's friend Keith who will come with ladders. Carole also offered ladders. All helpers welcome. The meeting expressed its thanks to Don Lowbridge who cut the plywood accurately to our requirements with no waste.

Accounts

Phil reported that the accounts for the year beginning October 2010 to end September 2011 had been audited and signed off by Mike Woodall.

Present balance in Lloyds TSB account £252-40.

There will be donations of £35 for the Badger Talk and £20 for the Fungus Forage.

The accounts were accepted: proposed by Glen, seconded by Dil.

AOB

Rob Cook reported that youths had been seen digging for scrap metal near the Orams Lane entrance; he will let police know if he sees them himself.

The deposits of large rubbish have still not been dealt with.

Carole pointed out that Japanese knotweed continues to be a big problem and can be spread on people's feet. SSDC have acknowledged that so far treatment has not been successful; other methods may need to be considered for next spring. Julian observed that persistence is required and that we need to nag SSDC.

The Chairman will Email SSDC officers regarding the above 3 problems (copy now on file).

A further 270 bulbs have been ordered from Shipton Bulbs: planting date to be arranged when they arrive. Possible sites include both entrances and the bank down to silver birch meadow where the old brickwork is.

Carole expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Chairman and other officers for their work over the year. Phil also noted those unsung litter-pickers who are not members but who walk in the Sandbeds regularly and help to keep it in good order.

Next meetings

Fungus Forage Sunday 30th October 10a.m. – meet Orams Lane entrance.
Badger Talk Wednesday 23rd November 7.30p.m. – The Three Stirrups.