

Friends of Barnfield Sandbeds

Meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2017

Present

Marion Goodrich
Glen Sibley
Peter Rock
Lynn Pinson
Carole Danbury

Joyce Bradley
Brenda Luck
Philip Goodrich
Carolyn Redshaw
Patricia Field

Apologies received

Rob Cook, Edna Sibley

Minutes of last meeting

Agreed and adopted: proposed by Phil, seconded by Glen

Chairman's Update

This morning the Chairman and several members walked the site with Ryan Taylor and Andy Aston (SSDC). Several trees were identified for felling. The work is expected to be carried out this week, supervised by Andy and with a different contractor from last time. The felled timber will be cut and left on site, for possible seating and for habitat.

After the walk members returned to Bat House with Ryan (thankyou to Marion and Phil for welcome refreshments on a cold morning) to discuss in detail the draft Management Plan. A very useful discussion was held. Ryan will let us know when he has prepared the next version. It may be that two versions will be appropriate : a concise statement to be made available locally and to encourage local interest, and a lengthier report for the purposes of SSDC.

Report from Joyce

Joyce visited the Wolseley Centre (HQ of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust) to enquire about building a pond-dipping platform. She received a very helpful response. Possible designs were described and discussed, and also discussed with Ryan at the meeting this morning. Ryan will look into the possibility of shared funding between FOBS and SSDC; this would enable a larger and improved structure to be built, and also the purchase of pond-dipping equipment.

Report from Phil

Balance at bank £422.83; no recent movement.

Phil continues to investigate insurance. Forest of Mercia can supply a 10-hour training course, minimum 5 people, £30 per person, earliest available April 2017; no certificate would be provided on completion of the course. Ryan is going to enquire for us whether a leaf-blower counts as a power tool. The meeting discussed the pros and cons of purchasing insurance.

AOB

Carole reported that she found a hedgehog on her lawn recently and had taken it to Hedgehog Rescue at Cheslyn Hay.

Working Party : Sunday 29th January 2017 : meet 10am Orams Lane entrance for pond clearing and litter picking.

Next meeting : 22nd February 2017