

# FRIENDS OF PUTNOE WOOD and MOWSBURY HILLFORT

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2017 at Mowsbury Clubhouse

**Members present:** Robert Bright, Martin Fannon, Sue Fannon, Mick Lilliman, Chris Moss, Diana Readhead, John Wallace, Marion Wallace, Chris Wedge, Helen Wilkie, John Wilkie, Andy Wilkins (Chairman), Allison Wilkins,

### 1 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Lyn Caudrey and Dave Parratt.

### 2 Minutes of meetings held on Tuesday 17 January 2017

It was noted that item 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence should to read '*A Welcome sign*'.

### 3 Update from Country Park Guardians

There was no report as Jon Bishop and Danny Fellman were not present.

### 4 Future Tasks and events

**4.1 Cycle access to Putnoe Wood south side.** John Wallace noted that we await an update from Danny regarding the proposed Installation of restrictions to access via the south side bridge in order to slow down cyclists' entry.

**4.2 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations – Tuesday 9 May.** John had spoken to Nicki at the Four Seasons Café who confirmed she was happy to cater for the event. She can provide a menu including vegetarian, gluten free, and mushroom free options. Prices would depend on numbers attending with the Friends providing their own drinks to accompany the meal. It was agreed that Friends will pay £14 per person, and any shortfall will be subsidised from the Friends funds. John will circulate menu options.

**4.3 Brickhill Parish AGM – 16 March.** The Friends have been invited to make a report to this meeting which John Wallace will present.

### 4.4 March Tasks.

- **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>.** Hillfort to clear up of storm damage and a bonfire if weather permits.
- **Dogwood clearance on Mowsbury Meadow.** It was agreed that Chris will contact Laura Downton for advice as to the best way to tackle this and also the nettles elsewhere on the site. It was noted that some nettles should be maintained as these provide a good habitat for butterflies. John Wilkie suggested that the dogwood could be tackled by lopping and then the cut ends painted with glyphosate stump killer which is available over the counter.
- **Orchard work.** Mow, cut and rake so as to help reduce hogweed growth.
- **Putnoe Wood.** Trim vegetation and clear weeds along paths, and map extent of snowdrops to see if they have spread since the last survey approximately 3 years ago.

### 5 Update on Freeman's Common submission to the Local 2032 Plan

Andy reported that after some political infighting, Freeman's Common remains on the Local Plan as a possible site for development.

**5 Financial Matters**

John Wilkie presented the latest figures.

Cash in Bank	£550.35
Petty Cash	£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£550.35</b>

**Income**

Wassail donations	£170.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£170.00</b>
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**Outgoings**

Donation to St John's Hospice	£145.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£145.00</b>
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**7 Any Other Business**

**7.1 CPRE.** Andy reported a request for the Friends to provide a tour of Putnoe Wood and Mowsbury Hillfort for the local branch CPRE members following our success in the 2016 Living Countryside Awards. He will liaise with Nicola Scholfield, Branch Development Manager.

**8 Date of next meetings**

6.45 for 7.00pm Tuesday 9 May at the Four Season's Café  
7.00pm Tuesday 11 July at Mowsbury Clubhouse – AGM.