

## **Friends of Putnoe Wood and Mowsbury Hillfort**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in the Trophy Room at Mowsbury Club House**

**Members Present** - Sue Fannon, Martin Fannon, Margaret Fisher, Helen Miller, Jane Moore, Marion Wallace, John Wallace, Chris Wedge, John Wilkie, Allison Wilkins, Andy Wilkins,  
Andy welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. **Apologies** – Jon Bishop, Ed Burnett, John Jordan, Chris Mackay, Diana Readhead, Helen Wilkie,
2. **Minutes of last meeting**  
Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 agreed as correct
3. **BMX-Trail bike track plan for Putnoe Wood**  
Andy filled everyone in about rumours he had heard of proposals to build a BMX – trail bike route through or in Putnoe Wood. He has had contact with Phill Fox (Outdoor Access Development officer), Simon Fisher (Parks and Countryside manager) and Ed Burnett among others and has been assured that there are no plans for this at present. Full details of emails have been recorded and will be kept on file.
4. **Update from Park Rangers**
  - Jane reported that she has some Tree Survey Packs from Opal available that she will pass on to us. They are aimed at different groups who will work together to survey and investigate the general health of trees. They suggest that July will be a good time for this when the trees are in full leaf.
  - She has heard nothing from Dave Kenny about permission for tree planting and reinstatement of the sign at the Hillfort
  - The second dog poo bin for Putnoe Wood is to be reinstated next to the one at the main entrance of the wood.
  - On 15<sup>th</sup> June Jane is taking the ‘Saturday Afternoon’ Archaeology group (children) to the Hillfort. Jeremy Oetgen might go as well.
  - Clive Betts, manager of the ground maintenance staff is investigating obtaining some cutter collectors that could be used in the outer meadow. The friends group would then just have to help with some redistribution of the cuttings, which would be much easier than the raking we did last year.
5. **Interpretation Boards for Putnoe Wood**  
John Wallace gave an update on the group planning these boards (John, Marion, Larissa and Chris). There have been two meetings so far. The suggestion is to have 4 boards, 2 large and 2 smaller ones. One of the larger ones will cover history, maps etc. and the other wildlife. One of the small ones will be on caring for the wood now and in the future and the other the Friends Group.  
Andy had a suggestion to name some of the paths in the wood which all thought was a good idea. These could then be included on the map.

**6. Footpath between the two sites-Progress report**

This is an on-going investigation. Jane has been to see Phil Fox and will persevere with this as she would like to get something sorted with the Golf Club just in case the management of the club is taken over by a private group. She thinks it could be a permissive path through part of the golf course.

**7. Update on Seasonal Planning**

John has put together a very comprehensive list for both sites that was circulated. A copy will be kept on file.

**8. Future tasks and Events**

Laura Downton and Katharine Banham will lead a Biodiversity walk on 29<sup>th</sup> May at 2-00pm. They will be giving some suggestions on keeping a good balance in our activities. Jane will advertise this so it is important that Friends register if they want to go. John will send an email out.

A visit to another site would be welcome, possibly Galley Hill at Sandy. John said he would try to investigate.

**9. Heritage Lottery Funding for Mowsbury Hillfort**

Andy has registered our bid and asked everyone to go on the website to have some thoughts on this. He will email details of the website.

**10. Financial Matters**

We have £246-08 in the bank, £35- 06 in petty cash, £12 approx in Friends tea fund, £32 in stock (apple juice) making a grand total of £325-14

**11. Any Other Business**

Jane will sort a date for Dave Barnes to lead a walk in the Autumn

**12. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013, hopefully in the Trophy Room again.

This will be the date of the AGM. Anyone wishing to stand for any of the positions please contact Chris Wedge.