

Friends of Putnoe Wood and Mowsbury Hillfort

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th August 2014 in the Function Room at Mowsbury Club House

Members Present – Ed Burnett, Lynn Caudrey, Margaret Fisher, Jane Moore, Dave Parratt, John Wallace, Chris Wedge, Helen Wilkie, John Wilkie, Allison Wilkins, Andy Wilkins

1. **Apologies** - Helen Miller, Diana Readman, Marion Wallace

2. **Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of 10th June 2014 were agreed as being correct.

3. **A G M**

Chris Wedge has asked to stand down and Helen Wilkie is to take over the role of Secretary.

Andy Wilkins agreed to remain as Chairman, John Wilkie agreed to remain as Treasurer and John Wallace agreed to remain as Task Co-ordinator.

Andy Wilkins thanked everyone for their efforts.

4. **Update from Park Rangers**

- There are problems with the broadband at The Country Park so some emails not getting through.
- Ed is meeting Duncan Smith (from Fusion, who are now running the Golf Club) to discuss the permissive path between the wood and the Hillfort.
- Ed will follow up on the new notice board for Putnoe Wood
- An additional dog poop bin has been requested for the new path in Mowsbury Park but having it emptied is a problem. Only one person is employed to do the emptying so there is a time factor involved
- HLS update – all going well, Jane has some claims to make and Laura Downton has agreed to help
- Jane suggested we might do an earlier cut and collect in Mowsbury Meadow this year. The lower part of the meadow has not been cut yet (usually done by golf club staff) This is full of ragwort which will seed and spread to the upper part where we are trying to remove the ragwort. Ed will check with Fusion.
- Danny has produced a list of tasks for Putnoe Wood. John Wallace and Andy will meet Danny to get priorities etc.
- Jane suggested that as far as the Hillfort is concerned keep up with scrub clearing, pruning orchard trees, getting tree surgeon to prune some of larger orchard trees again

5. **Update on recent activities**

- Fruit tree mapping in main orchard has been done. Variety of most apples not known. Ed suggested looking at some of the fruit to try and identify the variety.
- The butterfly survey is ongoing. We can record our findings online at the ukbms website. Thanks to Martin Fannon for organising this.

- We are continuing to monitor numbers and types of bees at the Hillfort. Marion has been in contact with Colin Carpenter who will visit when circumstances permit.
- We have made a start at identifying the flowers at the Hillfort, we discussed the easiest way of doing this, might be a look-see record.
- Andy gave us some indication of possible sites being suggested for future housing, especially around the top of Cleat Hill etc

6. Future tasks and events

- John Bishop has agreed to lead another 'Foraging Walk' on Sunday 7th September at 2pm. (Let John Wallace know if you want to go so we can assess numbers)
- Lynn showed us some excellent leaflets that she has put together. Let John Wallace know if you want to help move this on.
- It is suggested we start to clear the leat back from the pond. Who owns the land beyond the style needs to be investigated.
- Grass cutting of the inner and outer meadow needs planning
- After meeting Danny John will suggest tasks for Putnoe Wood..

7. Financial Matters

The Annual Financial Report is found at the end of these minutes, showing our income has exceeded our expenditure

It was suggested we need some more slashers. John has investigated this and they are about £60-70 plus postage.

It was suggested we might think about producing more notelets

The group decided that in the event of the dissolution of the 'Friends' any money we have should be donated to the local branch of TheWildlife Trust.

8. Any other Business

- There is a questionnaire at the back of the latest newsletter
- There is a problem with the calendar on the website but information is available on the blog.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 14th October 2014 in the Function Room at Mowsbury Golf Club

10. Annual accounts as 12th August 2014

Attached below.

Friends of Putnoe Wood and Mowsbury Hillfort

Annual Accounts as at 12 August 2014

		2012/13		2013/14	
Opening balances	bank	60.08			271.08
	cash	00.00			35.06
Income		57.22	Green Borough Fair	0.00	
		12.00	Sale of nest boxes	0.00	
		104.00	Sale of notelets	6.00	
		70.00	Sale of tea etc	85.00	
		12.00	Sale of juice	32.00	
		25.00	Talks	15.00	
		0.00	Wassail (net)	68.25	
		280.22	340.30 Total income	206.25	512.39
Expenditure		14.00	Purchase of mugs	0.00	
		20.16	Web site	20.16	
		0.00	Printing	10.35	
		0.00	Flask, rakes etc	90.95	
		0.00	Tree survey	5.37	
		0.00	Paint	9.99	
		34.16	306.14 Total Expenditure	136.82	375.57
Closing balances	bank	271.8			341.13
	cash	35.06			34.44
Carried forward		306.14			375.57

Treasurer:

Date:

Audited by:

Date:

Comments:

Opening balance reduced by £43.00 as committee agreed that cash not held by Treasurer is not to be included. As at 27 June 2014 no funds have been received from easyfundraising.org. Therefore no entry shown.