

FRIENDS OF NAPHILL COMMON

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING No 48 HELD 9 January 2017, 7.30pm THE WHEEL pub

1. Apologies for absence.

Kevin Bennett, Peggy Ewart, Lynn McMinn & Marek Pawlik.

2. Present.

Chris Miller, Ron Collins, Neil McMinn, John Camp, Peter Davis, Philip Hussey, Trevor Hussey and Sheila Draper.

3. Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising not on the agenda.

Agreed, with a correction from "Cloughs" to "Clumps" in item 9(iv) on the previous minutes. A FoNC banner for the working parties was in hand.

Action: Ron

4. Treasurer's report

The end of year figures were still being audited and would be circulated to the committee ahead of the AGM.

Action: Peggy

5. Membership secretary's report.

Membership at 2016 year-end was up on 2015, to 110 members. The chairman thanked Lynn and Ron for their work.

6. Phase II of Common work

There was no date for this; Trevor continued to maintain contact with the Wessex contractors, which had not received clearance from the funding agency. Unless the work was carried out, it would be unlikely that the fallen tree from Dew Pond would be removed, in which case FoNC would have to rethink. The Husseys noted that they had almost finished marking the trees within the projected Phase II area and the chair thanked them for that considerable undertaking.

7. NapFest 2017: silent auction

Ron was organising a FoNC silent auction for the 2017 fete and reminded everyone to try to obtain pledges from their contacts.

Action: ALL

8. FONC events' programme for 2017

The new programme would be on the agenda of the next committee meeting; in the meantime, the chair asked everyone to generate new ideas too.

Action: ALL

9 Working parties:

227 man-hours had been worked in 2016, a rise on 2015; David's group had almost completed work on H18 and was working adjacent to Willow Pond and Ron's group had been clearing and mowing Ladies' Mile. The 2017 priorities were for the ponds. One-eighth of Shipwash Pond could be cleared and monitored; Ash Pond, which had water in it after several dry years, needed clearing of its sweet grass; Daisy Pond was full of irises and we needed professional advice from the Freshwater Trust as to how best to tackle this. As reported in Chris' email, DNA evidence of greater crested newts had been found in Pickups Pond, but not in Daisy Pond. [Query whether the fire to burn clearance bush etc had contributed significant phosphates to the pond, such as might have affected the newts.]

10. Short and long walks.

Both walks had done well over 2016, with good numbers; the first ever Boxing Day walk had been a well-attended (approx. 30) success.

11. AGM

The AGM, on 10th Feb 2017 in the village hall, would be announced in the Dec/Jan Gazette in both an article by Trevor and a free advertisement put together by Chris. David agreed to provide his laptop and a projector table for the AGM, to borrow a projector, and he and Chris to work on a PowerPoint presentation and to liaise with the speaker.

Action: Trevor and Chris

10. Next meeting.

Monday 27th March, 7.30 pm in The Wheel pub