

MINUTES OF THE MOOR POND WOOD ‘STEERING COMMITTEE’

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 19th OCTOBER 2006

AT 143 MOOR ROAD, PAPPLEWICK

<u>Present:</u>	Mr S Walker	Chairman
	Mrs M Barker	Secretary
	Mrs C Hardstaff	Linby Parish Council
	Mrs M Kerr	Friends Group
	Mrs M Passey	Friends Group
	Mr L Scudder	Notts. County Council
	Mrs D Townsend	Friends Group
	Mr V Whyley	Clerk to Papplewick Parish Council
	Mr C Womble	Chairman of Papplewick Parish Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Mrs Hull.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2006

Amendments were made to Page 3 – Friends’ Account income figure to read £3.23. Page 4 – Subscriptions to read £3 for group membership. With these amendments Mrs Kerr proposed acceptance of the minutes, which was seconded by Mrs Passey and agreed.

2a. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr Walker said he would be happy for someone else to become Chairman but as no-one else wanted to undertake the position Mrs Kerr proposed Mr Walker carry on which was seconded by Mrs Passey and agreed. Mrs Passey proposed Mrs Kerr as Vice Chairman, which was seconded by Mrs Hardstaff. Mrs Kerr confirmed she was also prepared to carry on. Mr Walker confirmed Mrs Hull would carry on as Treasurer until the accounts were split from the Parish Council.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Papplewick Dam (Page 1) Mrs Barker and Mr Scudder gave a report on the meeting they had had with Mr Malcolm Burns of the Co-operative Society and the company’s agent Mr Hutchinson of Shoular & Sons. They confirmed that Mr Burn’s reaction was positive to permission being given to access Papplewick Dam site via the Co-operative’s field on the eastern side of the dam. However, Mr Burns said he could not confirm whether permission would be given for the dam footpath and its connection to become a definitive path without consulting his colleagues. It was agreed letters be sent to Mr Cundy and Mr Stuart Marshall updating them.

Dog Notices (Page 1) Larger dog signs still to be installed.

Site Model (Page 2) Mrs Kerr proposed inviting Mr Robin Barton to the next committee meeting for him to make a presentation and to discuss the details. It was agreed a letter of invitation be sent including an apology that the model had not been discussed at the Friends’ AGM. and asking him to give a presentation of approx. half an hour.

National Archaeological Weekend (Page 1) Mr Walker reported the archaeologist, Richard Sheppard, had apologised most profusely for not attending the Friends. Annual General meeting but he had been involved with a job which needed to be completed and he could not get away. He informed Mr Walker that he wanted to excavate the other side of the bank where the sluice had been exposed during the national archaeological weekend and to survey it.

Strimming Course (Page 2) Mr Walker confirmed the members' certificates were for five years, not three and therefore did not run out until 2008.

Correspondence (Page 2)

Green Gardens - Mr Walker had not heard anything from Councillor Joe Lonergan regarding this award.

Leat Features - Mrs Barker reported she had spoken to Denis Hill at Ashfield District Council about the boundary to the Grange Farm development and the corridor section, which the developer would be handing over to Ashfield in a couple of years time. She had discussed with Mr Hill the group's interest in involving part of the corridor section with the project area and also Ashfield having a representative on the Steering Committee. Mr Hill had agreed to attend a meeting

British Hardwood Improvement Programme - Mr Walker confirmed there were a number of chestnut trees within the project area that fell into the survey category.

Friends' Annual General Meeting - It was noted that Mr Ged Hall would be giving a talk on badgers at the 27th October meeting. Mr Walker still had to contact Notts. Wildlife Trust with regard to a speaker for November.

Mr Walker suggested a note be sent to those members who had not attended the AGM asking them if they paid their subscription they would be kept informed of the project.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Biodiversity Action Group - Mrs Barker reported that within the minutes of this group's last meeting Nick Crouch of Notts. County Council had reported a target to increase County's number of Local Nature Reserves was likely to become a strategic priority in its next Strategic Plan. Also, it was likely that target would be to increase LNRs to 0.62 ha / 1000 population. Project sites mentioned included Hopping Hill at Newstead and Pancake Hill at East Bridgford. Agreed a letter be sent to Mr Crouch asking that County consider Moor Pond Wood as a LNR. This on the basis it would incur minimal cost to County to do because a lot of work had already been undertaken in respect of the Management Plan, Invertebrate study and the infrastructure of the site was already in place.

5. **ACCOUNTS**

(a) **Parish Council** - The project accounting was discussed at length with Mr Walker circulating a spread sheet of available funding. He confirmed he had tried to reduce the number of fund headings and that the committee needed to resolve how it went forward with the project accounting so that within the next 6/8 months the project accounts could be started again under one banner as opposed to split between the Parish Council and Friends.

Mr Scudder confirmed the costs in respect of path and fencing works by a contractor in respect of the new footpath to Papplewick Dam would cost approximately £3,800, with the bridge being constructed by himself and his team of volunteers.

In respect of earthworks in Dam Banks he estimated £2,100 plus bridge and plant.

The available fund for interpretation panels was noted with £1,000 available for an additional large panel for the Papplewick Lane entrance and £2,000 in respect of the smaller panels for the bridge. It was agreed interpretation panels at the 'Plug Hole' should also be funded and part of the LHI grant be used to restore the sluice exposed during the 2005 archaeological weekend.

Other works that needed to be costed within the project funding budget was further landscaping around the outflow in the pond – Powergen's grant suggested. Also, the restoration of the top of the 'Plug Hole'. Richard Sheppard to be contacted regarding the restoration as Jason Mordan, Notts. County Council's Building Services Officer wished this to be resurveyed.

- (b) **Friends' Account** - Mrs Hull had presented these at the Annual General meeting.

6. **GRANTS**

- (a) **LHI** - Further archaeological works had already been discussed under accounts.

- (b) **Other**

Interpretation boards - Already discussed under accounts.

Building Better Communities Grant – Mr Walker confirmed Mr Bonham, County Councillor, had supported the sculpture application. It was noted a decision would not be made until March 2007.

Breathing Places - Mrs Kerr reported on this grant and agreed to submit an application.

Heritage Lottery – Mrs Barker informed the meeting Ashfield District Council was hosting a funding seminar on Tuesday 14th November at Teversal. Mrs Kerr and Mrs Barker to try to attend.

7. **SCULPTURE TRAIL**

The presentation by John Macdonald at the Friends' AGM was discussed. Mr Walker had emailed Mr Macdonald confirming the group was interested in principle and the matter would be discussed at this meeting. Agreed to ask Mr Macdonald to attend a meeting of the Steering Committee to discuss the project in more detail.

8. **ANY OTHER MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN FEELS NEED TO BE DISCUSSED**

Mr Womble's concern was the future of the project if it was wholly handed over from the Parish Council to the Friends' group, which subsequently disbanded. It was felt the

Friends' Constitution needed amending to facilitate the handing back of the project to the Parish Council.

Mrs Barker pointed out that leaflets could be produced as part of the interpretation.

Mrs Townsend expressed disappointed at not being informed the New Year's Eve party had been cancelled. Unfortunately, she had missed the previous two meetings when this had been discussed.

Mrs Hardstaff gave contact details of Wilsford Woodcrafts for future speakers/demonstration.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 22nd November, 7.30pm at 143 Moor Road.